

IN THIS ISSUE WE GOOSE ...

MADONNA • THE GODFATHER • EDWARD SCISSORHANDS

No.
304
July
1991

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MAD

"An employer is someone who's late when you're early and early when you're late!"
—Alfred E. Neuman

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CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND WRITERS the usual gang of idiots

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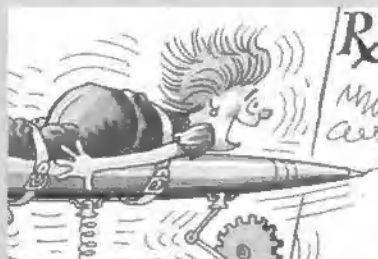
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FRONT COVER ARTIST: RICHARD WILLIAMS

FRONT COVER IDEA: PAUL SOLICITO

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"MACGIMMICK"

Thank you for the recent satire "MacGimmick" in issue #302! As President and Vice President of the ONLY Official International Richard Dean Anderson Fan Club, I guess all we can say is that MAD is one situation that MacGyver couldn't get out of!

Jenny Sturtevant
President
Toni Sturtevant
Vice President

Thank you for your wonderful letter, however we hope you're sitting down. We have some unsettling news for you. MAD's own Paul Peter Porges is a member in good standing of another Official International Richard Dean Anderson Fan Club based in Papua, New Guinea! We're afraid you're not the only one. Unless, of course, you're based in Papua, New Guinea, in which case everything is O.K.!—Ed.

"WASTED TIME"

You forgot one "Waste of Time" in MAD #302: Time wasted looking for something funny or redeeming in MAD... 29 years, 11 months!

Mark Lindahl
Des Moines, IA

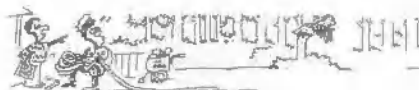
Mark-o—A real ripper! Here's one more we left out: Time wasted thinking up the perfect word to describe you... two seconds, you gink!—Ed.

"BABAR'S FINAL ADVENTURE"

Upon reading MAD #302 I discovered the best article that has ever been printed in your magazine. Amazingly enough, the article didn't make me laugh, but instead drew tears. "Babar's Final Adventure" was excellent in its view of the state of the World. Your respect for our home is what keeps me reading your publication. I think politicians and big industry executives should put down their copies of the Wall Street Journal and start reading MAD. They just might learn something.

J.J. Brent
Minot, ND

J.J.—Fa fal A bingo of an ideal in fact, to get them to put down the Wall St. Journal and read MAD, we are initiating a new Letters Page Stock Quotation Service with this very issue! American Celery & Tire up 8... Xerox down 12... Xerox down 12... Xerox down 12... United Hats up 6 1/2... International Doors closed at 4 1/2... Hernia Research, Inc. down 1... Fruit of the Loom Underwear unchanged...—Ed.



SUBSCRIPTION LETTER OF THE MONTH

My ex-wife thinks you guys are a bad influence, so please send a three-year subscription to my 11-year-old daughter who loves MAD. After all, I've been reading since issue #11 and I think that I turned out OK!

Bill Wise
Lake Providence, LA

We'll process your subscription, but if you think substituting a subscription to MAD for decent child support payments will stand up in court, you are sadly mistaken! It sounds to us like you're getting your legal advice from MAD's own sparkplug attorney, Jack "Hung Jury" Albert. See you up the river, pal!—Ed.

MORON MAIL

I love to pig out at all-you-can-eat buffets. But the other day, I was at a buffet during the busiest time of the day. I was just about ready to chow down when this old guy sitting at the table next to mine, with gurgly mucus in his throat, kept continually and constantly gurgling his mucus into a hanky. I found I could not eat a single bit! This is a true story!! What should I have done?

Dr. Angela V. Woodhull, Ph.D.
Gainesville, FL

Do what we always do—Ask Bill Gaines to please move to another tablet!—Ed.



Woodhull and Gaines: Never invite these two to the same meal!

You guys are so desperate, I bet you would print a letter from any dumb schmuck!

Scott Terice
Penticton, Canada

No. It would have to be a really, really, really dumb schmuck! Congratulations!—Ed.

MAD E.S.P.

Not long ago, I was looking through some of my older issues of MAD and was struck by two things. First, how well most of your humor stands up to the test of time. Second, how accurate some of your predictions of the future turned out to be.

I have three examples that were especially prophetic. In MAD #43 (Dec. '58), you projected the development of grocers from pushcarts to stores, to markets, to supermarkets and finally to malls peopled with pushcart vendors!

In issue #56 (July '60), an article concerning the "garbage explosion" asked where we were going to put our trash in the future. Your solution: Shoot garbage into outer space! Seen some of the recent proposals for getting rid of radioactive waste?

Finally, in MAD #62 (April '61), in an article titled "Tomorrow's Parents." In it, you predicted that children of the "beat" generation would reject their parent's values and have desires to be doctors and lawyers, for example. Today, we call these children "Yuppies"!

Tony Avak
Lexington Park, MD

We'd continue writing prophetic articles like these, but we lost the services of the writer of those articles, Hank Nostradamus! (Oddly enough, however, most of our readers were able to predict the preceding lousy Nostradamus gag as soon as they read your letter!)—Ed.

DESERT STORM NOTES SECTION



The proud parents of SPC Patrick Mitchell recently sent us this photo of him enjoying MAD while serving with the Army during Operation Desert Storm. Patrick isn't wearing the gas mask because of a scud attack; he's wearing it because he just got to the issue's "Lighter Side"! The drawing is by Steve McCoy and Mark Gomes of Santa Maria, CA. If this was the character we went up against in the Middle East, Operation Desert Storm would have had to be renamed (you guessed it) Operation Desert Schmuck!

TOTEM PAL



Peter Jarvis of Ontario was hiking through the Canadian wilderness when he discovered this old totem pole bearing the likeness of Alfred E. Neuman. Actually, it's common to carve well-known faces into totem poles. The face directly above Alfred's is Nancy Reagan, in fact Pete probably thought we'd comment on his ducky hat, but what we want to know is: What's the deal with those pants? Have you got a kayak in there or something??

MORE MORON MAIL

I was HAUNTING around for something to lift my SPIRITS when your SEND-UP of "Ghost" came into my POSSESSION. I almost DIED laughing! From HERE-AFTER I will be your ETERNAL fan!

Jame T. Sangor
Riverside, CA

Whoops.—Ed.

RAISING THE COLOR ISSUE

I just wanted to congratulate MAD on the snappy color ensemble on the cover of issue #302! The rad purple and celery green stripes on Alfred E. Neuman's shirt accent the Barbie pink in the MAD logo perfectly! Très chic!

Ali Matricardi
Los Angeles, CA

You thought Alfred's shirt was purple and green? We hope you're sitting down. We have some unsettling news for you. The colors are actually red and blue. We consulted with a noted ophthalmologist, Dr. Henry Flom. He said anyone seeing the colors purple and green are exhibiting symptoms of Bencivenga's Syndrome, a puzzling eye disorder. He added that a sure sign the disease has advanced to a secondary stage is if you also see the words "What, me worry?" printed upside down on the same cover. The third, and perhaps most baffling symptom of all is if you sometimes see wOrdSoFdIfFERenTAlZeSscrUnChEDtogetHeRonThePAge! For a free pamphlet on Bencivenga Syndrome, send 25¢ to Merkle Press!—Ed.

BIBLE BELTS

In MAD #302's "Rev. Donald Wildmon" feature, you made a serious biblical screw-up! You said that Luke 15:23 talked about the teaching that elephants cannot speak. But the verse says "And bring the fattest calf, kill it, and let us eat and be merry," which has nothing to do with elephants. I hope that I was not the only one that caught the error.

Matt Plummer
Concord, NC

Matthew (and Luke and John)—We appreciate the Biblical interest thou hast. We checked with our resident theologian, Leonard Brenner, who has spent many a night in seedy motel rooms thumbing through Gideon's Bible. He assures us that in no way does the verse in question say that elephants can talk. Therefore, we stand by our original convictions. We suggest you harketh back to Deuteronomy 28:34. (If you choose to do it in a seedy motel room, say hi to Lenny for us!) This verse not only prophesizes MAD, but also the dreaded Bencivenga Syndrome. Smart cookie, that Deuteronomy! Nostradamus has nothing on him! Amen!—Ed.

LIKE MOTHER, LIKE SON?

I seek your advice. Upon developing this photo, I found evidence that my son, Dan, was mutating into an Alfred E. Neuman lookalike! Is there any antidote for this dilemma? Do you think this is a result of my reading MAD during my pregnancy? Thank you for your time.

Dr. Cheryl Ellis, M.D.
Mission Viejo, CA



Why are you asking us? You're the doctor! Perhaps some exploratory surgery is in order! Better yet, tell Dan to lay off the pancakes for a while! —Ed.

HORSE CODE



This photo of an altered horse crossing sign taken by Owen O'Rourke in Hamilton, MA, appeared in an edition of the Hamilton-Wenham Chronicle. This is the first time we've ever seen two horse's asses on the same horse!

CLOWN AND OUT



While filming the Stephen King mini-series "It" in Vancouver, my mother took a snapshot of the cast. In the center of the picture is Pennywise the Clown, played by Tim Curry. I'm at the far right, looking into the camera. MAD was always around on the set for us to read until two weeks into shooting, when the magazine was banned from the set because it was thought to be a bad influence on us kids!

Jonathan Brandis
Studio City, CA

Let's get this straight: You say you're in a mini-series in which children are terrorized by a demonic clown who rips the flesh from their bones ... AND MAD IS A BAD INFLUENCE?!—Ed.

SPELL HATH NO FURY...

In the same issue (#302) in which you berate Todd Fronauer for his spelling error on his letters page envelope of the month, you publish "A See 'N' Say for Modern Kids" on the back cover with the Vice President saying "I'm an independant thinker..." Let he who is without sin cast the first stoan.

Cathy L. Wirzylo
Toledo, OH

Cathy—Good catch! However, it was no boo-boo! We were merely trying to capture the strange speech affectation Dan Quayle sometimes exhibits when Barbara Bush gently reminds him it's time to walk Millie!—Ed.



SPECIAL EDITOR'S NOTES

1. We'd like to thank Harry Nafplietis of Teaneck, NJ, and Stanley C. Korhi of Easton, PA, for sending contributions to be turned into gift subscriptions for troops in Saudi Arabia. We did!

2. To Bob Lizarra, formerly of Sepulveda, CA: Please contact the MAD office!

Please Address All Correspondence To:
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New York, New York 10022

MAD welcomes reader submissions. Manuscripts will not be returned or acknowledged, however, unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, strapped envelope!

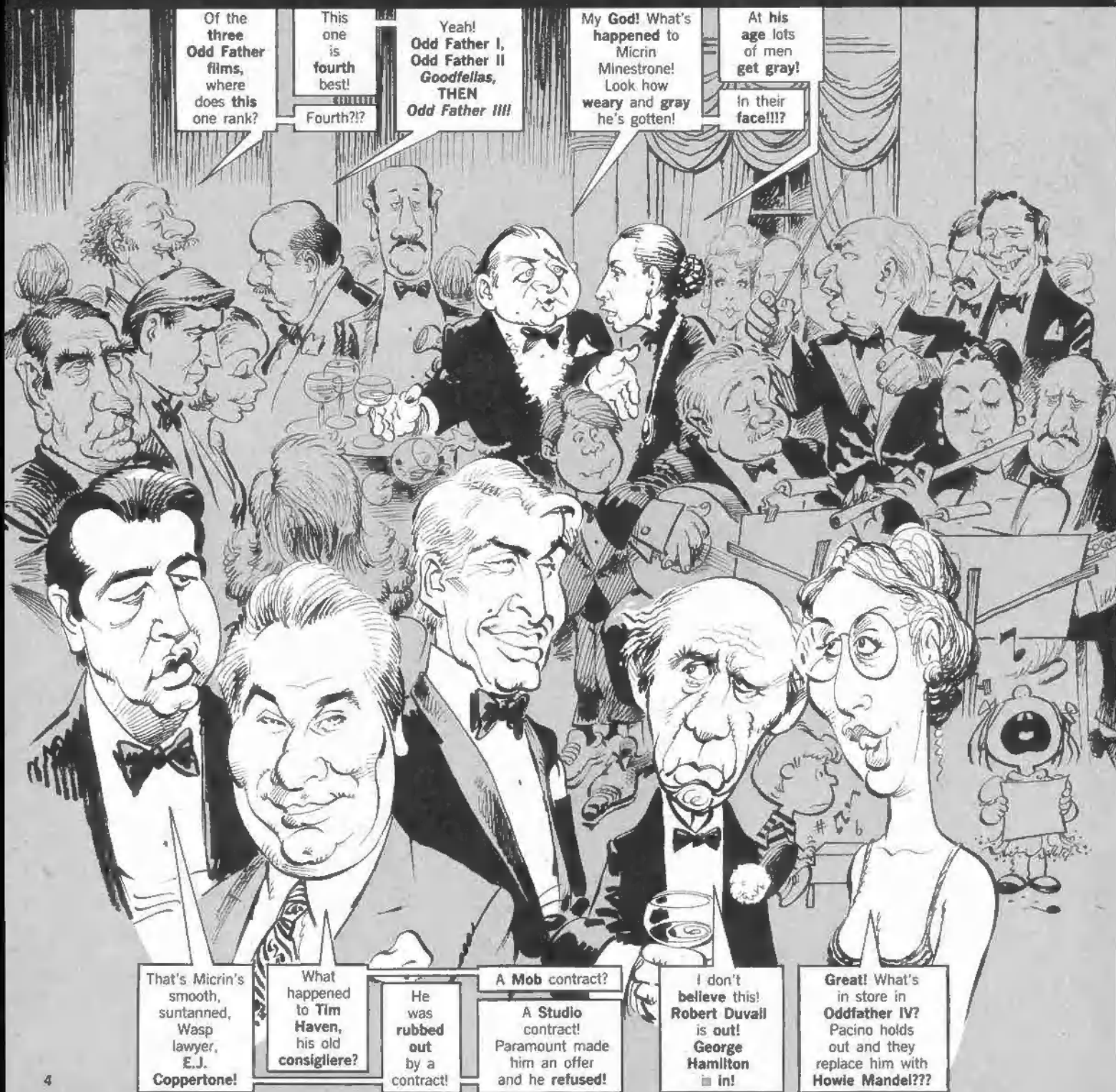
HEAR NO EVIL, SPEAK NO EVIL, PACINO EVIL DEPT.

*In **Odd Father I**, Luca Broccoli "sleeps with the fishes." In **Odd Father II**, Freako Minestrone "sleeps with the fishes." In this long-awaited sequel, the "fishes sleep with the audience!" Here is our version of...*

ARTIST: MORT DRUCKER

WRITER: ARNIE KOGEN

The Odd



FATHER PART II

They say this picture is about the struggle for honor! The struggle for redemption! The struggle for legitimacy!

Not exactly! It's about the struggle to outgross *Home Alone* and *Kindergarten Cop*!

Do you really believe that the Minestrone are no longer a crime family? That they've gone "corporate"?

Sort of! Nowadays, when they put out an order to "hit" somebody, they use ■ FAX!

What's this party for? Micrin Minestrone is being honored for his charitable contributions to the church!

Here's one hundred million dollars for the poor in Sicily!

This is most generous, Mr. Minestrone!

I raised this money the hard way—without Jerry Lewis! By the way, don't cash it till Thursday!

I guess it's the old story: "Money talks"!

Does it, Mommy? Does it really?

Please, dear! In this film perhaps it would be better if we let money do the talking! Not you! After all, it has more emotional range than you do!

IIIQ DRUCKER



Micrin!
Our son,
Antonio,
wants to
become
an **opera**
singer!

That's
thrilling, Fay!
Why don't you
just **pound** me
in the face
with a
fork lift!



Micrin,
I got
problems
with your
nephew,
Vino!
He's a
hothead!

Why come
to me,
Ragu?
I'm
out of
the
mob!

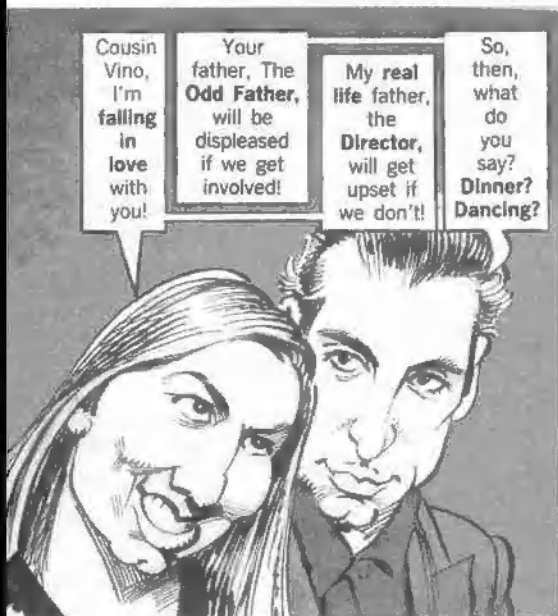
In spite of your
silly hair,
Don Micrin,
you still
have influence!
Only you can
make the peace!

Fair
enough!
Kiss and
make up!
After-
wards
we'll have
a bite!

Ow!
Ow!
Ow!

The
kid's
a %*#&@*
maniac!
He
chewed
Ragu's
ear off!

Vino,
you
nut! Not
that
kind of
bite!

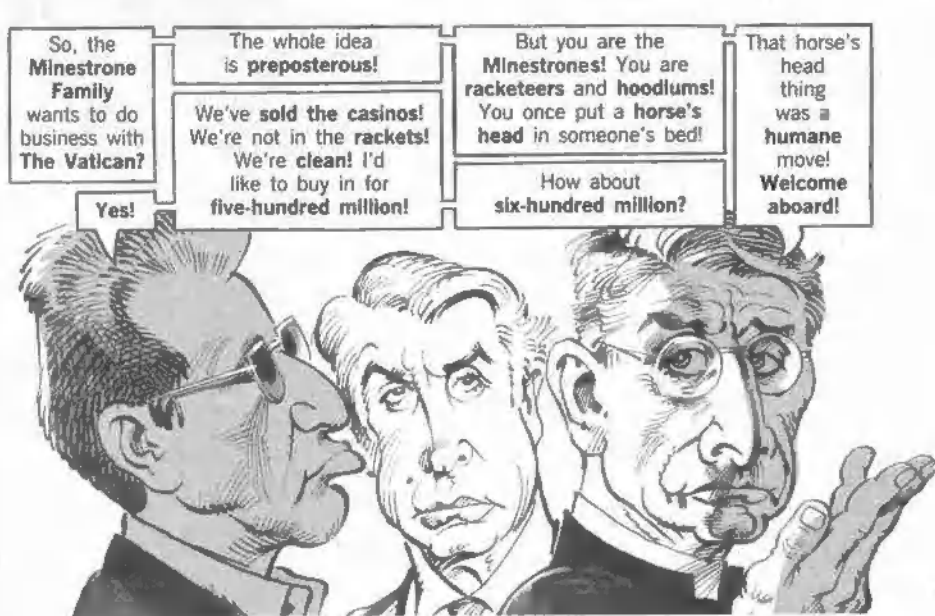


Cousin
Vino,
I'm
falling
in
love
with
you!

Your
father, The
Odd Father,
will be
displeased
if we get
involved!

My real
life father,
the
Director,
will get
upset if
we don't!

So, then,
what
do
you
say?
Dinner?
Dancing?



So, the
Minestrone
Family
wants to do
business with
The Vatican?

Yes!

The whole idea
is **preposterous**!

We've sold the casinos!
We're not in the rackets!
We're clean! I'd
like to buy in for
five-hundred million!

But you are the
Minestrones! You are
racketeers and hoodlums!
You once put a horse's
head in someone's bed!

How about
six-hundred million?

That horse's
head thing
was a
humane
move!
Welcome
aboard!



Welcome to Atlantic
City, mobsters,
thugs and S&L
Officers! Listen
up: I am leaving
the mob to become
a legitimate
businessman!

No!
Say
it
ain't
so,
Micrin!

It's a new era!
The Minestrones
have gone from
musclemen to
accountants...
from bloodshed
to corporate
bonds!

Sounds
to me
like
he's
going
from
bad to
worse!



But I haven't
forgotten my
old friends!
I have a
"gift" for
each of you
for your
services!

This is
for you,
Don
Antipasto!

Fifty
million!
Mamma Mia!

For you,
Tony
"The Hat"
Fantuzzi!

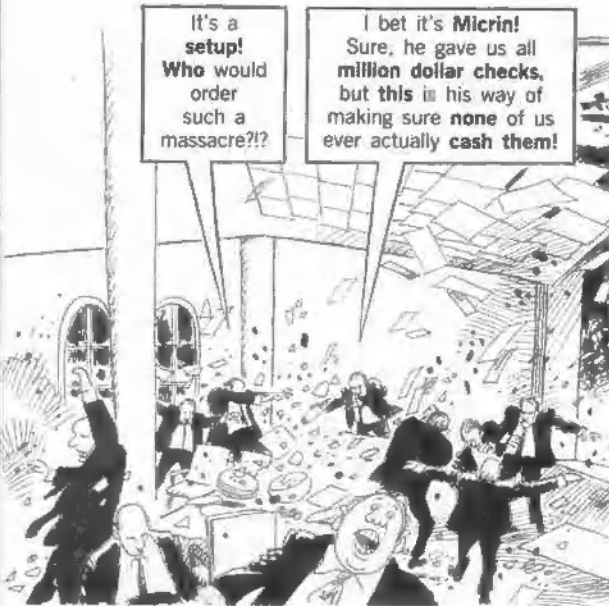
Sixty
million!
Holy Cannoli!

And for you,
Joey Ragu,
something
you can use!

A
hearing
aid?

I
thought
I'd
go
prac-
tical!





It's a setup! Who would order such a massacre???

I bet it's Micrin! Sure, he gave us all million dollar checks, but this is his way of making sure none of us ever actually cash them!



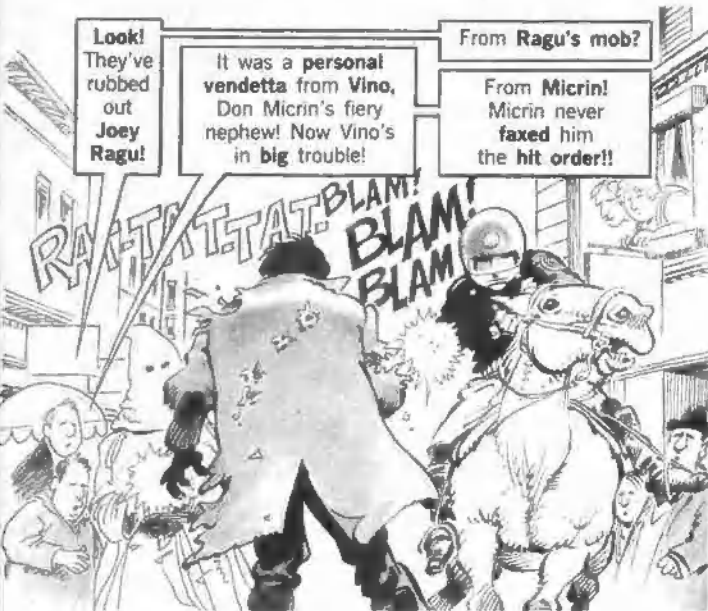
Micrin has had another diabetes attack! He is weak and tired! Right now he's getting much needed sleep!

Is he on medication?

Not necessary! His daughter, Maria, is "talking to him"! About twelve seconds into her "valley girl" monotone, he's out like a light!

That's absolutely incredible!

Around the hospital she's known as "The Miracle Drug"!



Look! They've rubbed out Joey Ragu!

It was a personal vendetta from Vito, Don Micrin's fiery nephew! Now Vito's in big trouble!

From Ragu's mob?

From Micrin! Micrin never faxed him the hit order!!



Bad news! The Pope is gravely ill! We need the Pope's blessing on our business deal with Immovalare Corporation! If he dies we have no deal!

If he dies, I'll kill him! I'll break his knees!

Easy, Vito, easy! We have to pray he stays alive!

I know! Perhaps my sun-reflector will give him health!

Mama mia! How I miss the old gang!



Well, we're all here in Sicily to celebrate the operatic debut of Antonio!

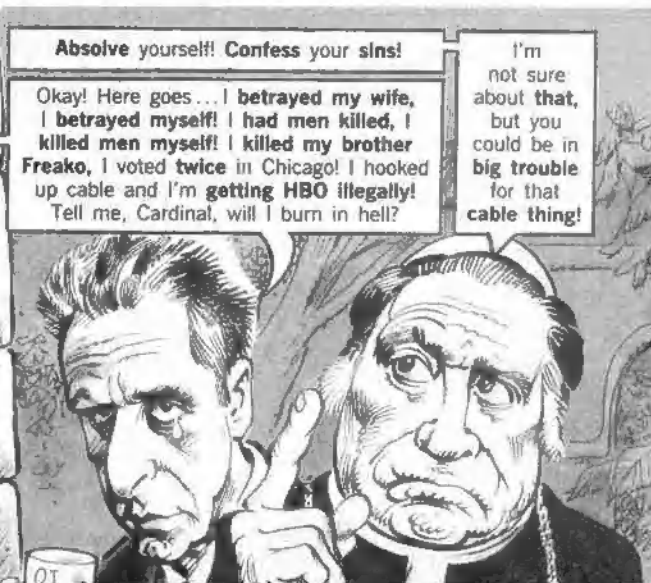
Sicily is just like I remembered it! So quaint! So tranquil! Nothing has changed!

Can you tell me where the Cardoza villa is?

Sure! It's three bodies down that road!

Yep! NOTHING has changed!

Cardinal Lamberghini, Please help me! I am so confused!



Absolve yourself! Confess your sins!

Okay! Here goes... I betrayed my wife, I betrayed myself! I had men killed, I killed men myself! I killed my brother Freako, I voted twice in Chicago! I hooked up cable and I'm getting HBO illegally! Tell me, Cardinal, will I burn in hell?

I'm not sure about that, but you could be in big trouble for that cable thing!



I hear you are the best assassin in Sicily! Can you kill a man for me?

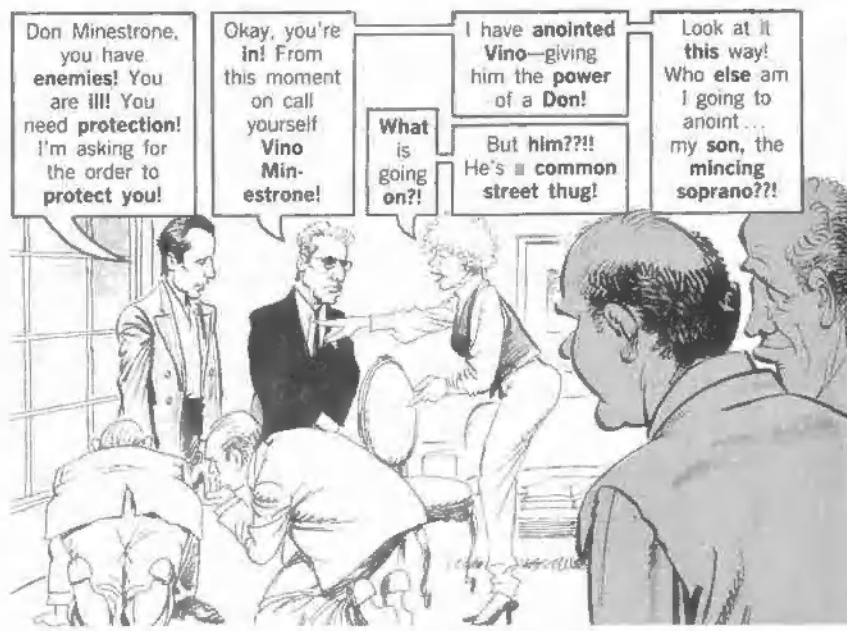
Not a problem!

His name is **Minestrone!** He is well-protected! It won't be easy! Can you do it cleanly?

Not a problem!

Can you make this killing a classic cinematic moment like in the first two **Odd Fathers?** ... One that film buffs will talk about for years?

Now you got problems!



Don Minestrone, you have enemies! You are ill! You need protection! I'm asking for the order to protect you!

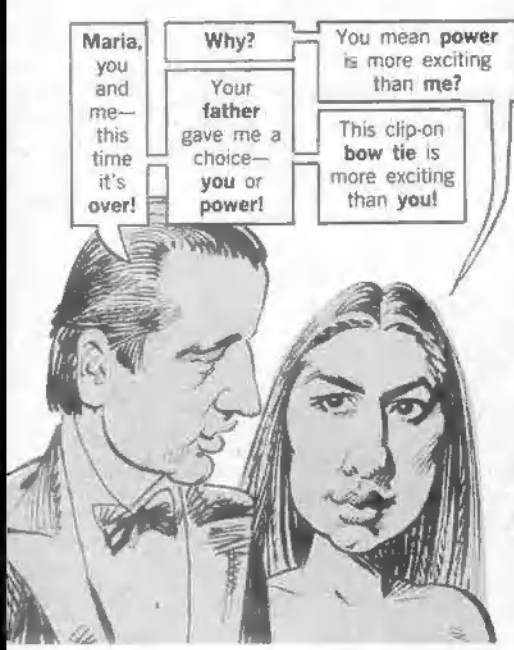
Okay, you're in! From this moment on call yourself **Vino Minestrone!**

What is going on?!

I have anointed **Vino**—giving him the power of a Don!

But him??!! He's a common street thug!

Look at it this way! Who else am I going to anoint ... my son, the mincing soprano??!



Maria, you and me—this time it's over!

Why?

Your father gave me a choice—you or power!

You mean power is more exciting than me?

This clip-on bow tie is more exciting than you!



Isn't this evening going to be magic and wonderful, Micrin?

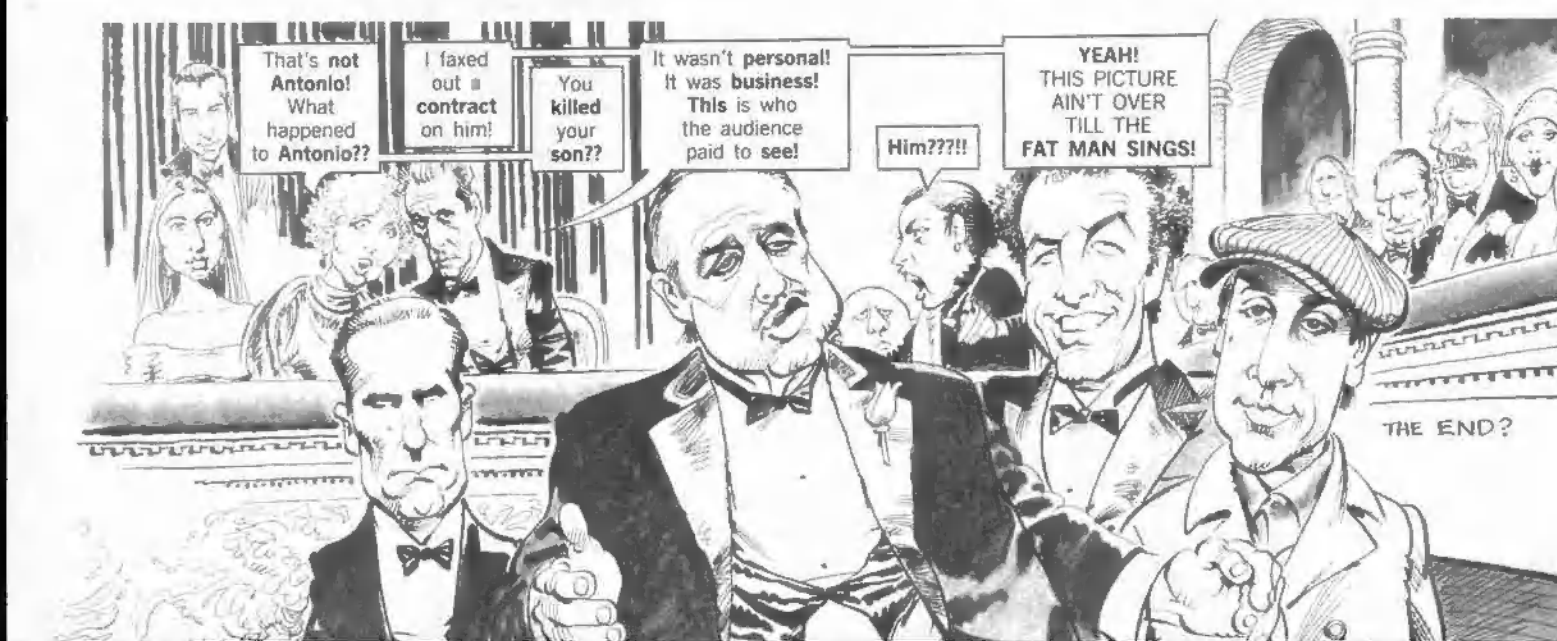
Yeah! I can't tell you how thrilling it is to have diabetes, and fly eight thousand miles to see your son in leotards!

Micrin, I'm worried! And your sister Canny is worried! We have grave concerns that hitmen are mingling in the crowd!

Relax! I've arranged a little surprise you're all going to love!

What? That while we're watching the opera, you'll be getting revenge on your enemies in a confusing cross-cutting finale that no one understands?

Not that! Just keep your eyes on the stage!



That's not Antonio! What happened to Antonio??

I faxed out a contract on him!

You killed your son??

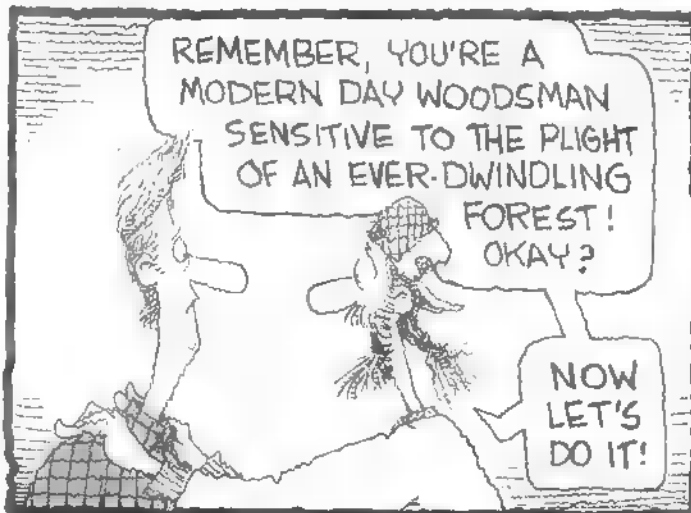
It wasn't personal! It was business! This is who the audience paid to see!

Him??!!

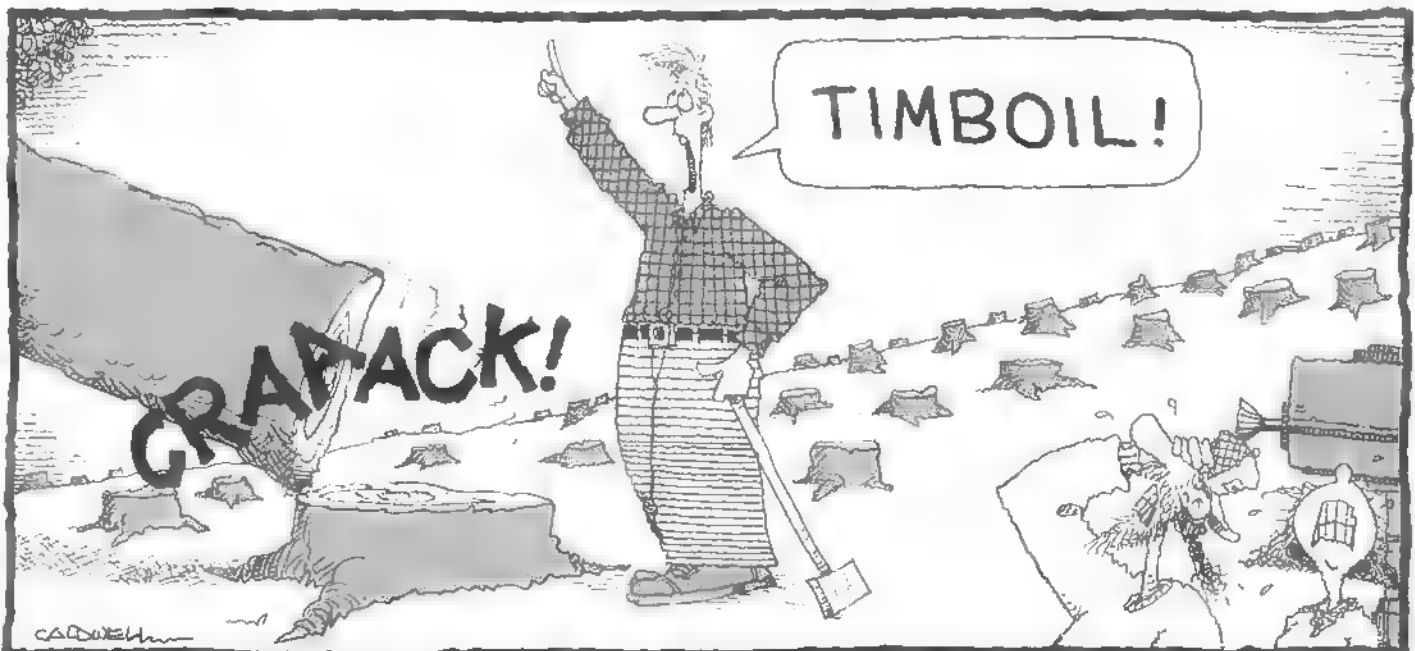
YEAH! THIS PICTURE AIN'T OVER TILL THE FAT MAN SINGS!

THE END?

DRAMA ON PAGE 9



ARTIST AND WRITER: JOHN CALDWELL



SCARS AND GRIPES DEPT

AMERICA

★ ★ ★ LAND OF ★ ★ ★ OPPORTUNITY

ARTIST: GEORGE WOODBRIDGE

WRITER: MIKE SNIDER



...where those who excelled in school can earn half as much as plumbers who didn't!

...where a former Draft Dodger can rise almost to the position of power to send brave volunteers into war!



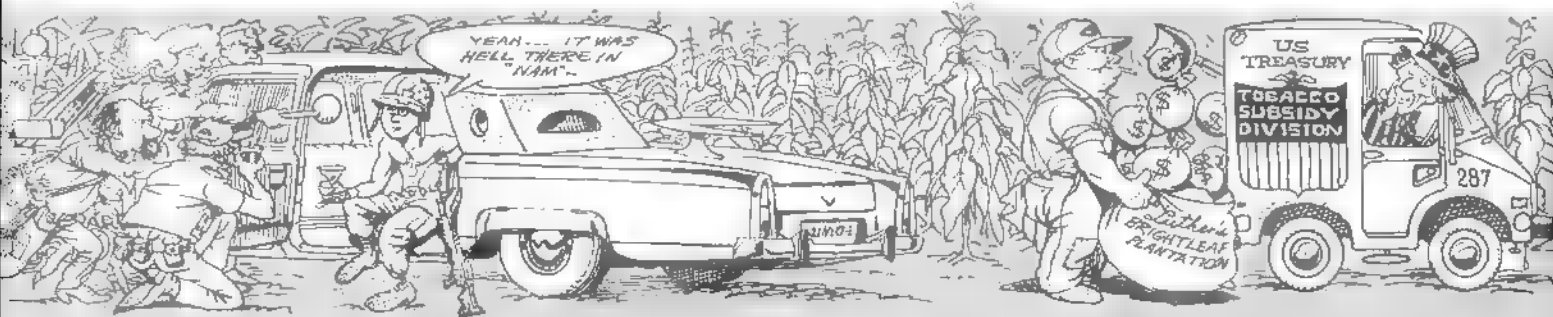
10 ...where the Presidency is just an entry-level position to a really big-money career!

...where a tycoon undergoing total financial meltdown can sell thousands of copies of his book, "Surviving at the Top!"



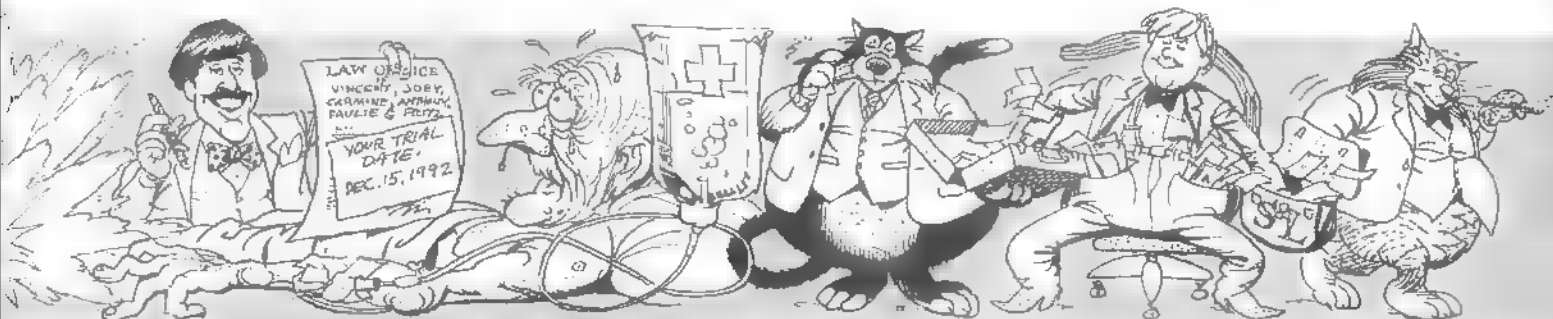
...where crucial jobs in transportation are open to all—
regardless of criminal record or level of intoxication!

...where a video camera and an expendable loved-
one are your ticket to a chance at \$100,000!



...where merely acting in a film about something makes
you more of an "expert" than people who lived through it!

...where the government will actually pay people to
grow a deadly substance it's trying to eradicate!



...where any citizen with a bottomless bank account
and five years to spare can have his "day in court"!

...where Congressmen from every state—no matter
how small or poor—can line their pockets equally!



...where employment as an armed security guard is
open to all—regardless of prior criminal record!

...where public education truly does prepare
young children for real life as grown-ups! 11

SLEUTH DECAY DEPT.

New villains! New crime scenes! New weapons! Here's MAD's...

MODERN DAY CLUE GAME CARDS

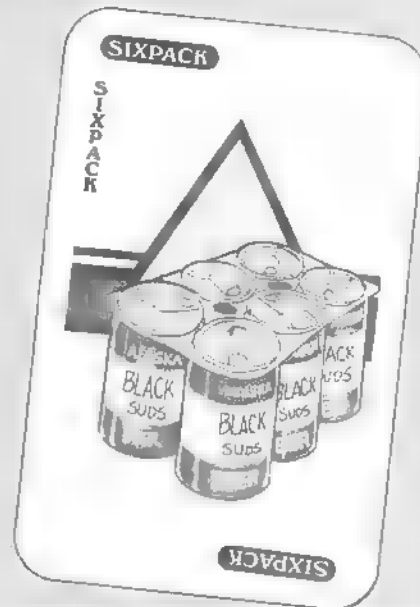
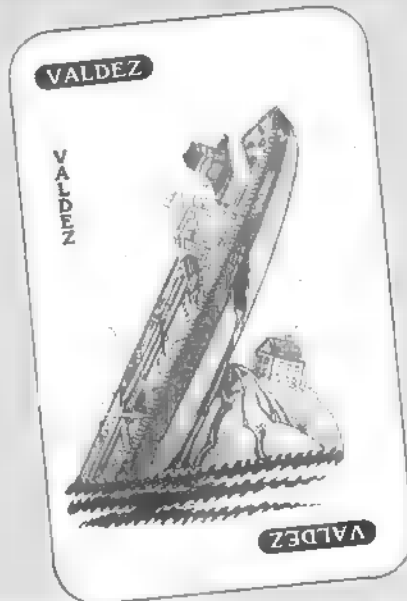
RIPPED FROM TODAY'S HEADLINES

ARTIST: GREG THEAKSTON

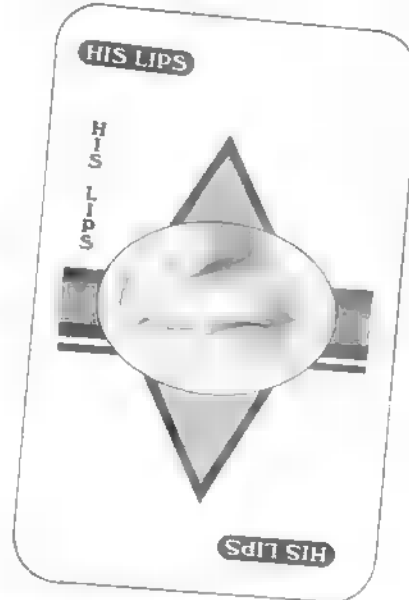
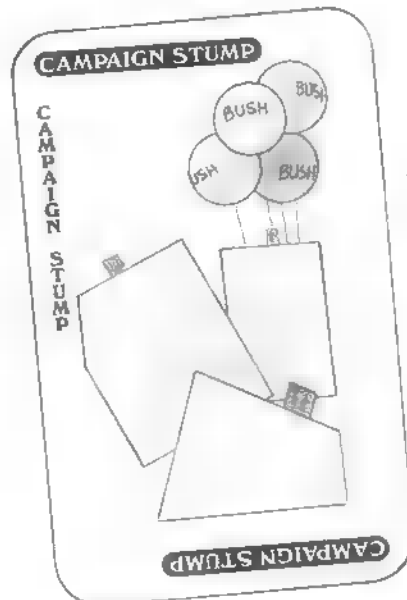
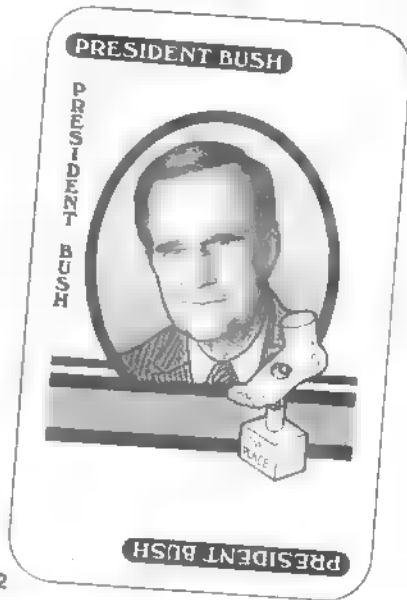
WRITER: MARY PAT LINDL

© 1991 Parker Brothers

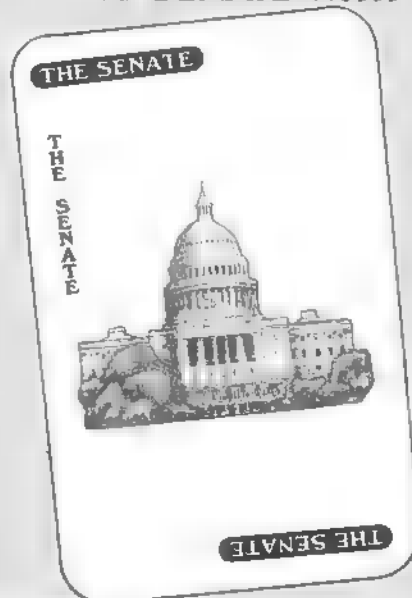
CAPTAIN HAZELWOOD ON THE VALDEZ WITH THE SIXPACK



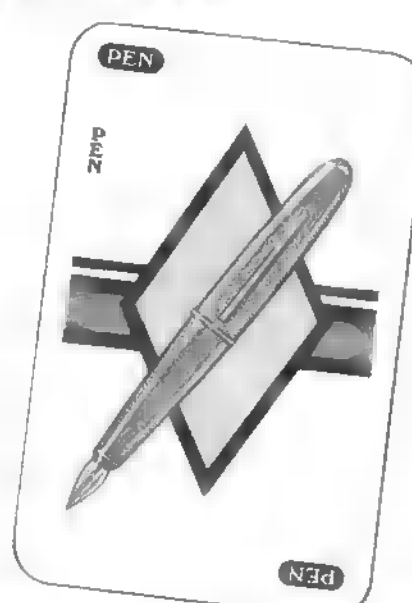
PRESIDENT BUSH ON THE CAMPAIGN STUMP WITH HIS LIPS



CHARLES KEATING IN THE SENATE WITH THE BRIBE MONEY



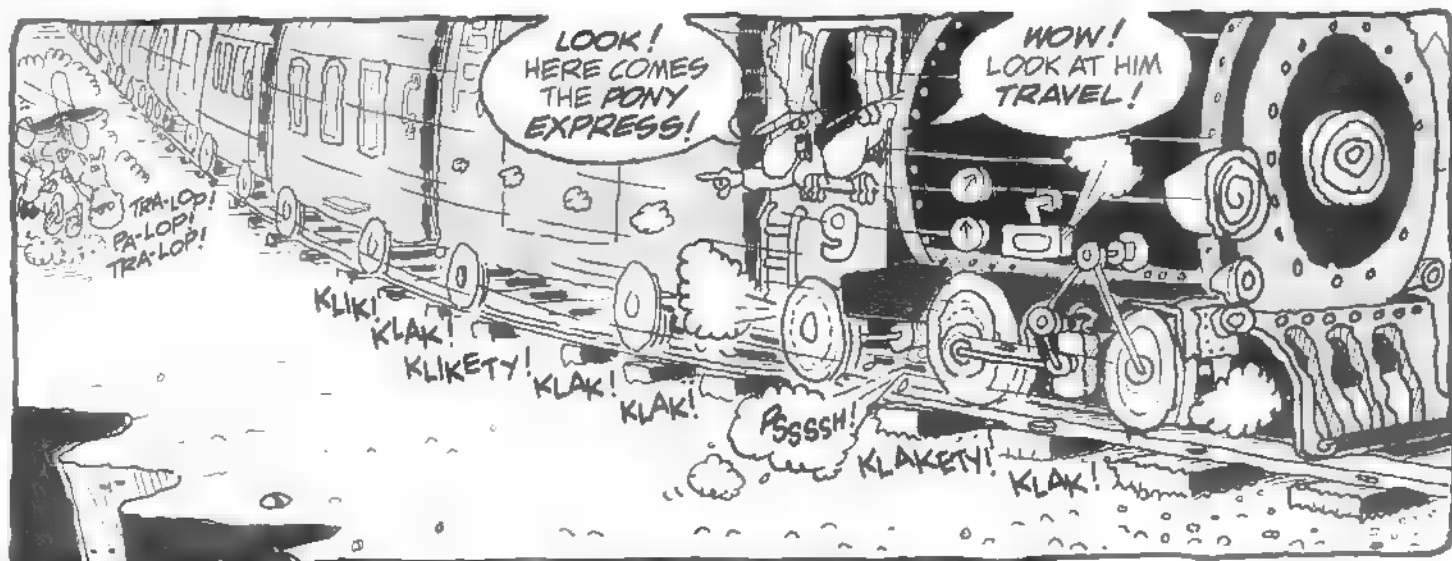
JOSE CANSECO AT THE BASEBALL CARD SHOP WITH A PEN



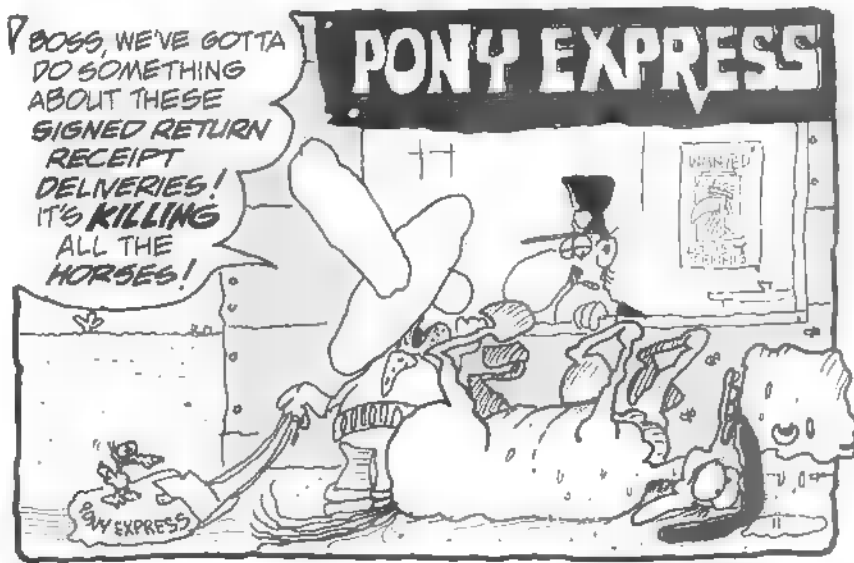
THE JAPANESE IN THE WORLD'S OCEANS WITH THEIR FISHNETS



THE PITIFUL POSTAL PERIL



ARTIST AND WRITER: DUCK EDWING



They sit in the dark corners of shopping malls, unwanted and unloved, unable to ask for the attention they so desperately need. Who are these pitiful creatures? Pathetic K-Mart shoppers? Hardly! We're talking about mechanical ponies and rocking boats—the forgotten rides of childhood. Today's kids don't part with their quarters unless they're really stimulated! Which is why we at MAD suggest introducing these...

NEW AND IMPROVED STORE KIDDIE RIDES

ARTIST: AL JAFFEE

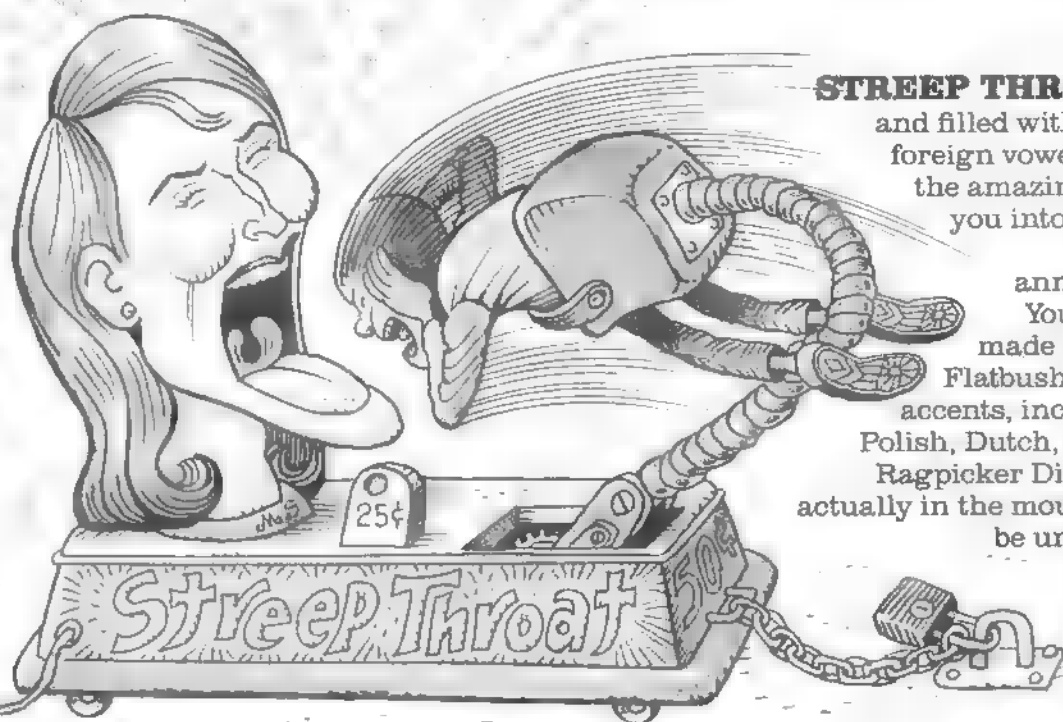
WRITER: DAN BIRTCHER



COASTLINE DODGE 'EM!

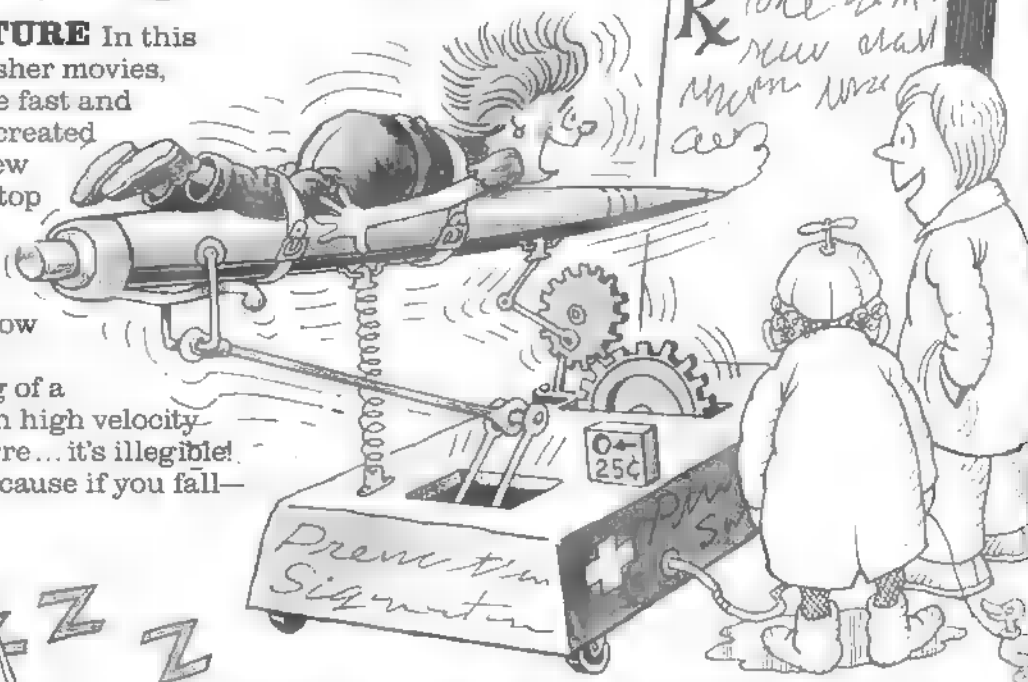
Hey kids, ever wonder what it's like to be at the helm of a real oil tanker while you're in a drunken stupor? Well, now you can feel the thrill of being

completely blitzed at the helm in **Coastline Dodge 'em!**, the ride that recreates the rocky and catastrophic voyage of the Exxon Valdez! You'll feel an exhilarating wave of nausea as you lose control of yourself and the ship. True, you won't destroy an entire ecosystem, but the ride is rigged to spill some black crud on the floor of the store's menswear department!



STREEP THROAT What's dark and deep and filled with the thundering sounds of foreign vowels? Why, it's **Streep Throat**, the amazing new ride which catapults you into the make-believe voice box of one of America's most annoying voices, Meryl Streep! You'll hear her say, "The Nazis made the Gringo take my baby to Flatbush, m'lord" in eleven different accents, including: British, Australian, Polish, Dutch, Estonian and Native Gypsy Raggpicker Dialect. You'll swear you were actually in the mouth of a FOREIGNER! (Must be under 4' 6" to clear gum line)

PRESCRIPTION SIGNATURE In this age of fast video games and slasher movies, kids demand that their rides be fast and slashing too! That's why we've created **Prescription Signature**, the new ride in which you're strapped atop a giant ball-point pen! Feel for yourself the unpredictable jerking of a doctor's moronic scrawl! Believe us, you don't know what excitement is until you've experienced the wild scribbling of a prescription for hemorrhoids in high velocity-Latin! It's stimulating, it's bizarre... it's illegible! Be sure to hang on, though, because if you fall—that's all she wrote!

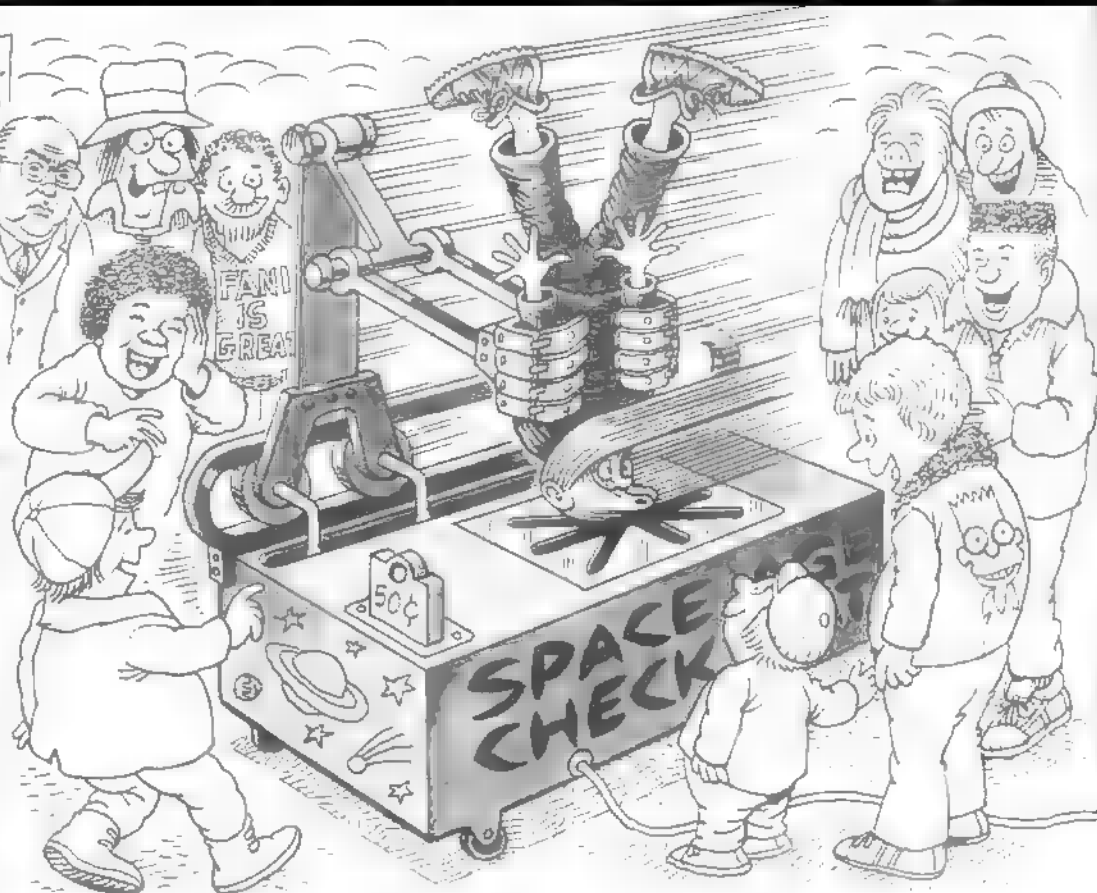


YUGO-A-GO-GO When Yugo auto sales took a nose dive, there were still hundreds of thousands of kids who never had the chance to ride in one of these Iron Curtain Wonder cars! That's where the amazing and wacky Yugo-A-Go-Go comes in! After inserting a quarter, simply climb in, turn the ignition key and experience the feeling of absolutely nothing happening...just like actual Yugo owners did! And here's an extra surprise: This ride *isn't* a toy replica! It's a real non-working, cramped and uncomfortable Yugo! Va Va Voom!



SPACE-AGE CHECK-OUT

We've all seen a grocery clerk scan a package again and again at the check-out, desperately trying to get the bar code to register. Ever fantasized about being treated that way yourself? Then **Space-Age Check-Out** is for you! A giant mechanical hand violently lifts you from the ground and drags you against a hard glass plate. Blinding red lasers flash in your eyes as you are mistaken for an improperly coded canned ham. Ride ends when you are dropped. (Maker of ride assumes no responsibility for kidney damage.)



SPECIAL DELIVERY Whoa-ho! It's exciting! Whoo-hoo! It's incredible! Whee-hee! It's **Special Delivery**, the wacky new ride in which you get banged around and mishandled just like a priceless breakable in the hands of an incompetent civil servant! First you're slammed and sealed in an oversized box with an inadequate amount of styrofoam peanuts.

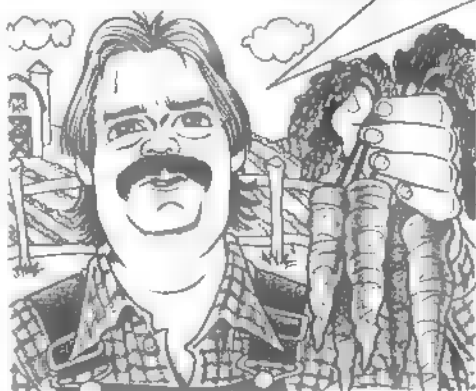
Then you're off for Cleveland from Miami Beach via Seattle with lengthy stop-offs at the Post Offices in Peewaukee, Grand Rapids, Intercourse, Wammelsdorf, Cupenluck, Wammelsdorf (again!), and Baktash, South Korea! On the other hand, you may sit around in the back room for weeks, stinking up the joint like a long-forgotten case of rotting gouda cheese!



Several issues back, we astutely pointed out to you the true UNimportance of words in everyday life. It is not the words that are significant, we explained, so much as the particular context in which the words are used. Judging by the letters we received after publishing this

MORE SAME WORDS... ***DIFFE***

I PICKED IT THIS MORNING!



...is okay when discussing fruits and vegetables.



...not okay for just about anything else!

HE'S GOT HIS



...is cute when cuddling a newborn.

COLD AND CLOUDY!



...is fine when describing today's weather.



...revolting when describing your school cafeteria's soup du jour!

FILL



...is expected when pumping gas is your job.

SNAP, CRACKLE, POP!



...is pleasant when it's the sound made by your cereal every morning.



...unpleasant when it's the sound made by your body every morning!

I'M OUT



...is bad news when it's your father or mother

article, we came to the conclusion that you applauded this amazingly clever and bold observation (although our conclusion could change once we actually get around to reading those three letters)! In any event, using *different* words and *different* circumstances, we now present...

DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES!

ARTIST: RICK TULKA

WRITER: J. PRETE

MOTHER'S EYES

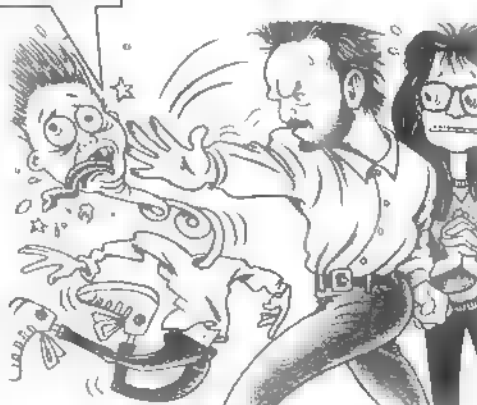


...a tad disturbing when hiding from a psychotic homicidal maniac!

EAT MY SHORTS!



...is funny when Bart Simpson yells it at his Mom and Dad.



...not so funny when you yell it at yours!

ER UP!



...insulting when you are applying for a job!

I'D LIKE A SMALLER CUP!



...is no problem when buying a soda.



...a big problem when buying a bra!

OF WORK!



...great news when it's one of the Senators involved in the Savings and Loan Scandal!

TWO DOWN AND THREE ACROSS ARE ALL YOU HAVE LEFT!



...is fine when describing the last clues to a crossword puzzle.



...not so fine when a dentist is describing your last remaining teeth!

THE MASTERFUL MESS-HALL MELEE

ARTIST AND WRITER: DUCK EDWING



This program is about unexplained phenomena. The events recreated here only happen to the most pathetic schmucks you've ever seen. What you are about to witness would never be aired on a real news show, as no respectable reporter would ever touch stories anything like these! Welcome to...

UNSOLVED *miserles*

ARTIST: JACK DAVIS

WRITER: ANDREW J. SCHWARTZBERG

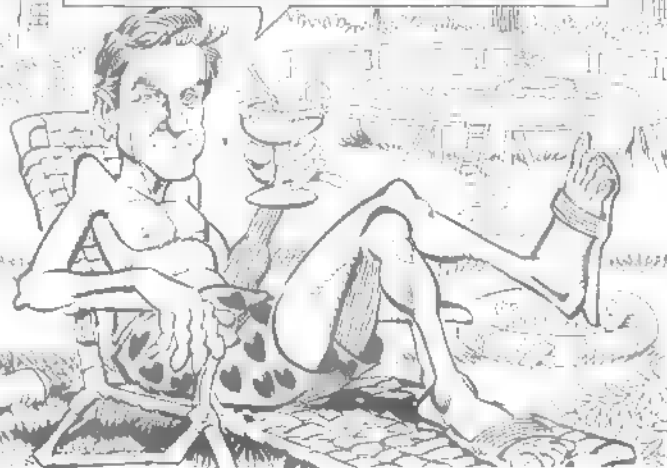
Hello, I'm Robert Slack!
On tonight's show: Have
allens come to Earth
to annoy us during
our daily routines?

Also, ■ man gets prompt
service at ■ Howard
Johnson's, and ■ woman is
inexplicably attacked by
a knife-wielding gerbill!

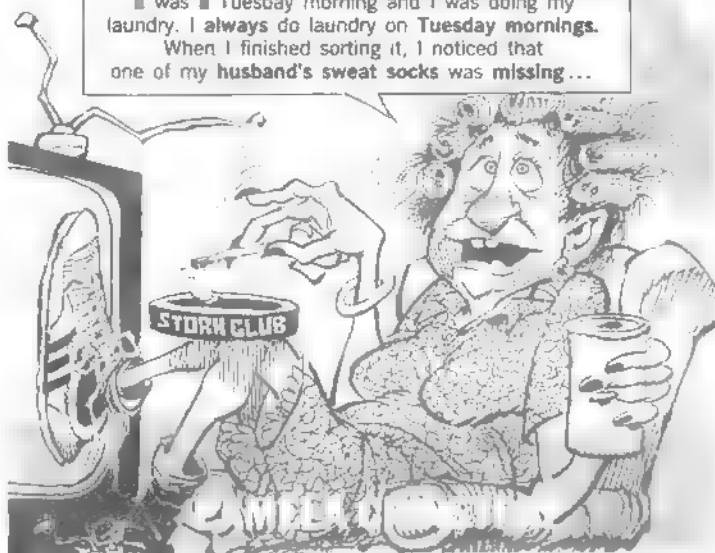
Join me in my dining
room as I serve baked
clams, and perhaps
you can help someone
solve their misery...



A woman loses her husband's sock. A dog barks for no apparent reason. A man's house is filled with blinding light. Merely coincidence? Maybe not. Pamela Chinstrap, of East Booster, California...



I was Tuesday morning and I was doing my laundry. I always do laundry on Tuesday mornings. When I finished sorting it, I noticed that one of my husband's sweat socks was missing...



"Naturally, I went back to the washing machine figuring that I missed it, but it just wasn't there! You can imagine how upset I was!"



"Luckily, when I went upstairs my son and his friends were putting on a puppet show, which took my mind right off the whole horrible episode."



Gus Shimkin, of Strieber, Missouri...

I remember it was about 12:17 a.m. 'cause I looked at my clock and it said 12:17 a.m. All of a sudden, my rottweiler, Zeke, starts a-barkin'...



"I go to see what's wrong and there's this shadowy figure sneaking out the front door. I got right scared 'cause my daughter was sleeping buck naked on the couch. I heard the darn spaceship as it took off, too. It made a sound just like an '84 Buick. I could tell that sound anywhere, 'cause the guy I forced my daughter to stop seeing drove one."



Danny Danielson, of
Dansville, Delaware...

I was really late and I
was going to bed, when
suddenly, my house was filled
with a blinding light...



"I opened up my window and saw this gigantic, glowing
spaceship connected to my house by a ramp. This short,
thin guy with an oval-shaped head says, 'You are the
chosen one. Come with us and fulfill your destiny.'"



"When I closed my window I was
so shook up, I had to drink a
second bottle of Jack Daniel's
before I went back to bed."



We spoke to
Dr. Hy Neck,
an astronomer
at Trump
University in
Atlantic City...



It's been known for some time that aliens have
come to Earth specifically to annoy us by doing
such things as hiding our keys and making car
alarms go off while we're sleeping. The
government has covered ■ up, though, because
these creatures have also played an instrumental
part in the last three Presidential elections.



The rare photo-
graph you are
about to see
was taken by Bob
Bertolini while
on vacation
at the Statue
of Liberty...



I took this picture using the
timer on my camera. Everyone
■ my family is accounted
for, but if you look closely,
you can see two fingers
sticking up behind my head.
We're still not sure where
they came from. It's scary!



Have aliens come to Earth simply ■ get in
our way, or do they have some greater
purpose? Researchers worldwide are hailing
the Bertolini photo as the single greatest
piece of evidence indicating that aliens are
nothing more than pests from another galaxy.
If you have any information about aliens, or
if you are an alien, please call our hotline.



Next week,
what's on
Gorbachev's
forehead? A
birthmark, or a
secret Aztec
code? Find out on
Unsolved Miseries!

Your mascara, eye shadow and make-up look great! Where's the guy you're dancing and making out with?

What do you mean? I am the guy!

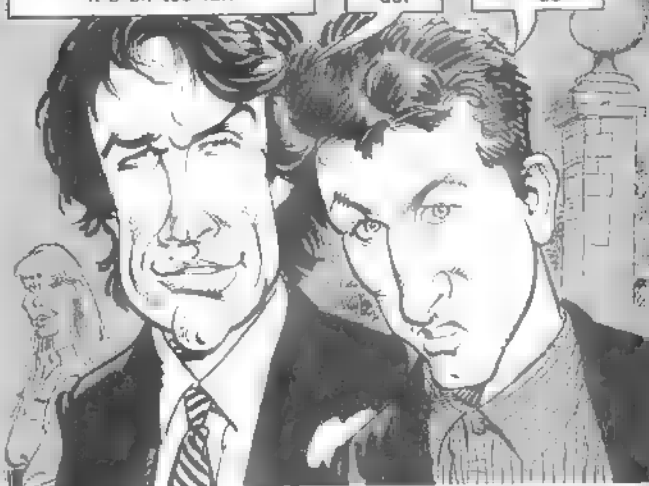
I know, but this is a Madonna video! So like I said, where's the guy you're dancing and making out with?



Look, I never had a problem with Madonna trying to be the "new Marilyn Monroe," but I think she's taking it a bit too far!

What did she do?

She started dating Joe DiMaggio!



What's the plot of this new Madonna video?

She checks into a foreign hotel where she has indiscriminate straight and bisexual erotic encounters with total strangers!

And when she's done shooting, what's next on her schedule?

She'll be hosting a Safe Sex Awareness Benefit!



UNLIKE A VIRGIN DEPT.

MAD
BEHIND
SCENES

Mad
VID

ARTIST: MORT DRUCKER

Have you ever noticed that after every movie project Madonna completely changes her look?

If you made movies like *Shanghai Surprise* and *Who's That Girl*, you'd completely change your look, too!



With the use of grainy black-and-white film and the slightly out-of-focus camera in this video, I can tell that Madonna was influenced by the movie-making techniques of classic films of the past!

Yeah, it looks like the stag films they used to show in American Legion Halls in the 50's!



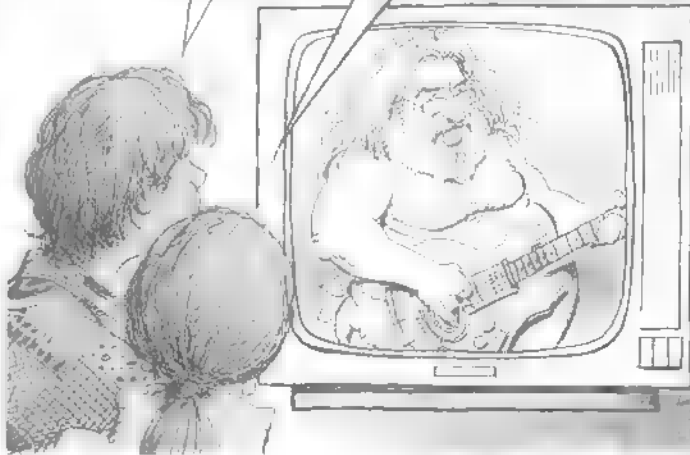
Wow, it's amazing how much influence Madonna has in the music biz!

Yeah, and I'm not sure it's such a good thing! Look at this! The Grateful Dead do their new video entirely in their underwear! Yecch!

This is some steamy video! I don't know what's gotten into Madonna this time!

What do you mean? In previous videos she's been a peep show performer with a young boy, an unwed pregnant teenager, and someone who dances in their underwear in front of burning crosses!

Exactly! MTV never had a problem airing wholesome stuff like that!



A
PEEK
ND THE
ES AT
A
onna
DEO

I still haven't got this straight! Do I pour the cream on Tom during the second verse or the third?

Is that before or after the midget ties me to the ladder?

Boy, it sure is tough shooting these romantic ballads!

Listen carefully! Tom pours the cream on you in the second verse! You pour the cream on the Nazi in the third verse! Got it??!

That scene's out! The midget's filming a Cher video! Now I want you to look aroused while watching a nun lick a hammer!



WRITERS: CHARLIE KADAU AND JOE RAIOLA

M.C. Hammer! What are you doing here?

I'm waiting to talk with Madonna about some dance moves!

Paula Abdul! What are you doing here?

I'm waiting to talk with Madonna about hairstyles!

Prince! What are you doing here!

I'm waiting to talk with Madonna about eyeliner, lipstick and facial blush!

Hey! Some joker switched the signs on the men's and ladies' bathroom doors!

So? Do you think it really makes a difference on this set?!



ILLNESS



BERG'S-EYE VIEW DEPT.

THE LIGHTS

DIVORCE



CHANGE



Look at these old pictures!
Remember how different we
were in the sixties, Bob?

Oh, yeah! Our motto
was, "Never trust
anyone over thirty!"

Right! We've
sure learned a
lot since then!

Now our motto is,
"Never trust anyone!"



R SIDE OF...

ARTIST & WRITER:
DAVE BERG

RESTAURANTS

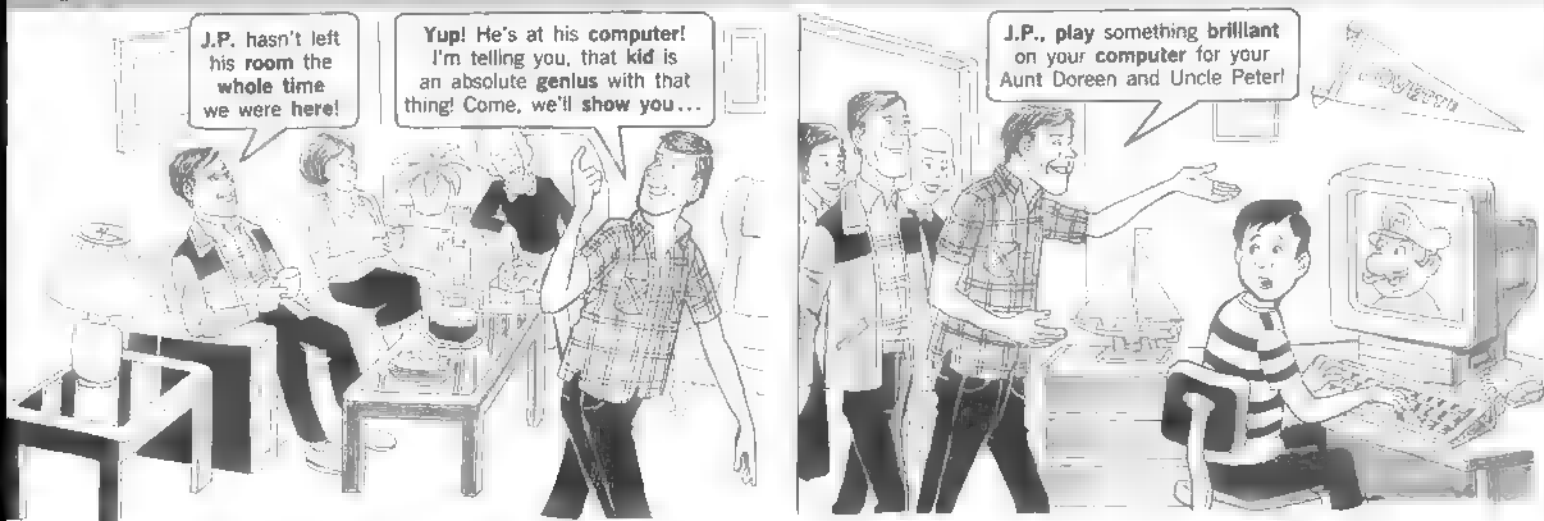
Waiter, the management
of this place should
be ashamed at the poor
quality of this food!

I'm sorry you didn't
like it, Sir! There
will be no charge
for your dinner!

Thank you! Can I
have a doggy bag?



PRIDE



BIG BUSINESS



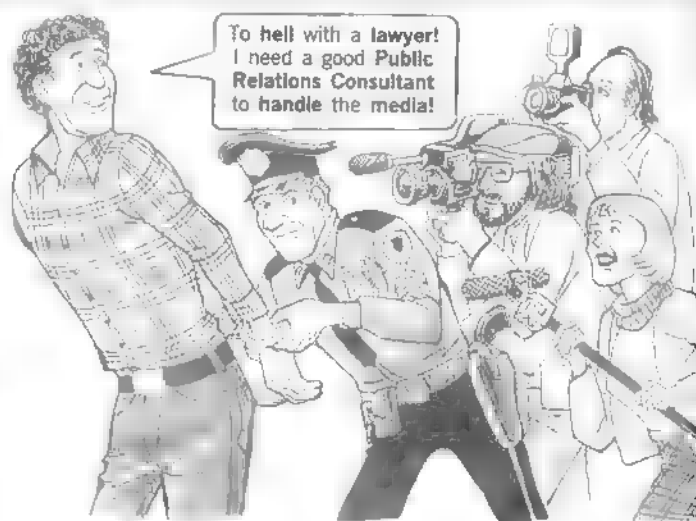
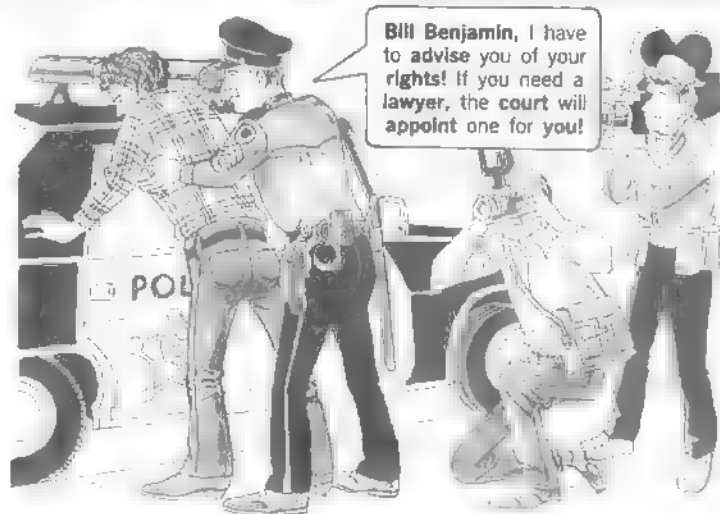
ZEAL



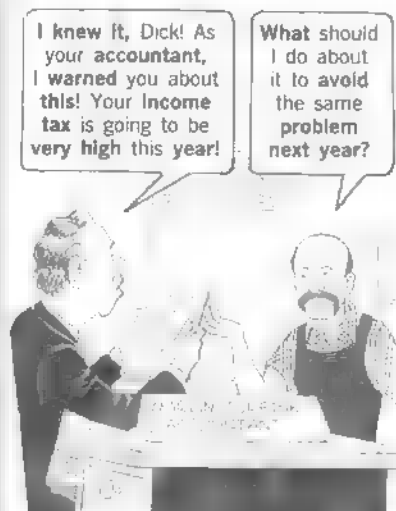
FEELINGS



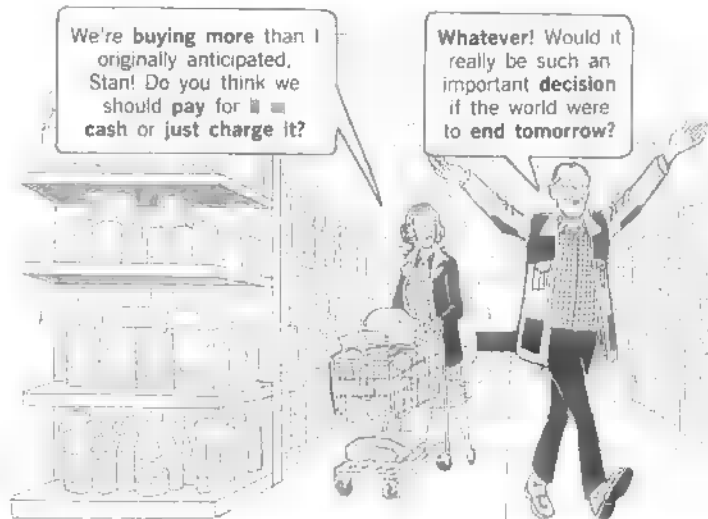
ARRESTS



FINANCES



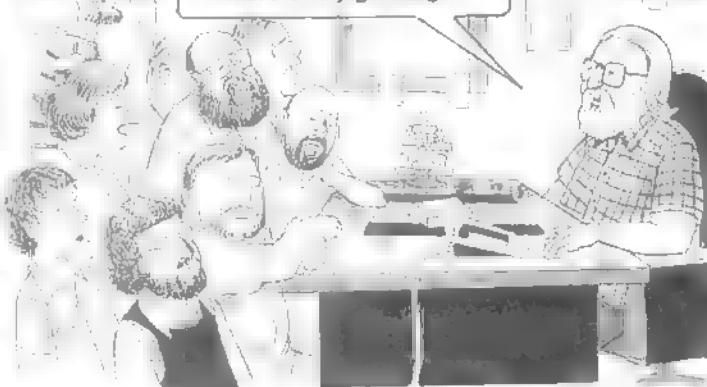
DECISIONS



In that case, let's charge it!

THE OFFICE

I'm not finished with my yearly "state of the business" speech, but as I look around this room I see a lot of you yawning! That's a very good sign!



That tells me that some of you are still awake!



FOOD

Mom, what's for dinner tonight?

I don't know yet...



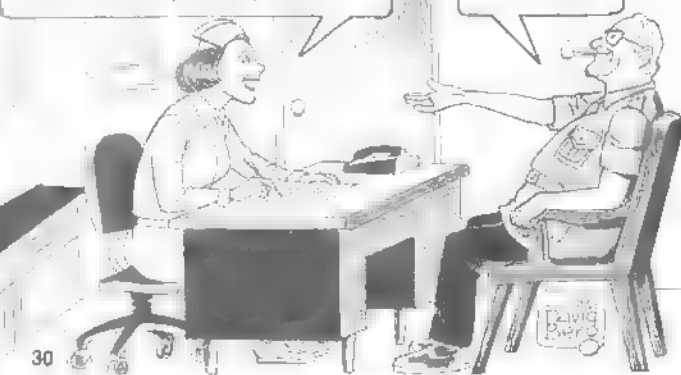
It depends on what I have discount coupons for!



DOCTORS

Mr. Kaputnik, even though your family doctor has suggested this special appointment with Dr. Case, we still have to start our own file on you! I have a few important questions...

Yes, of course! I don't have any problem with that! Ask away!



Fine! Have you or any member of your immediate family ever been mentally ill enough to file a medical malpractice suit?



There's a popular series of children's books out called *Where's Waldo?*, featuring a nerdy cartoon character named—you guessed it—Waldo! This uninteresting, annoying boob travels all over the world and the reader has to pick him out of crowds. This is supposed to be a challenge, but the problem is that anyone who isn't completely brain dead or legally blind can find Waldo with relative ease! To make it really challenging the author would have to stick Waldo in some not so pleasant scenes and locales where even nerdy Waldo would want to make himself scarce! So, to get the ball rolling, that's just what we've done! Here's some...

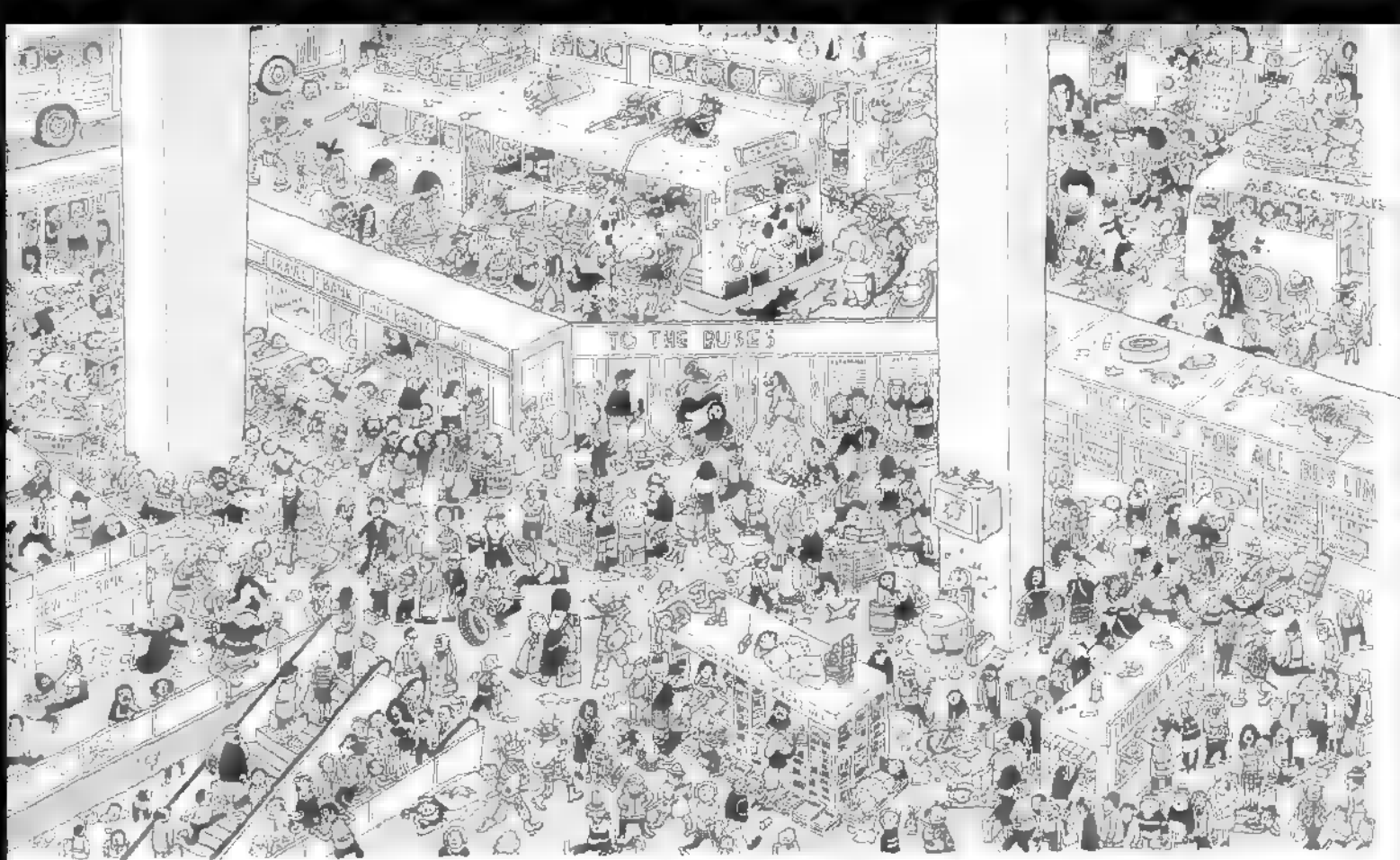
ROTTEN PLACES WHERE WALDO REALLY WOULD HAVE TO HIDE

ARTIST: TOM BUNK

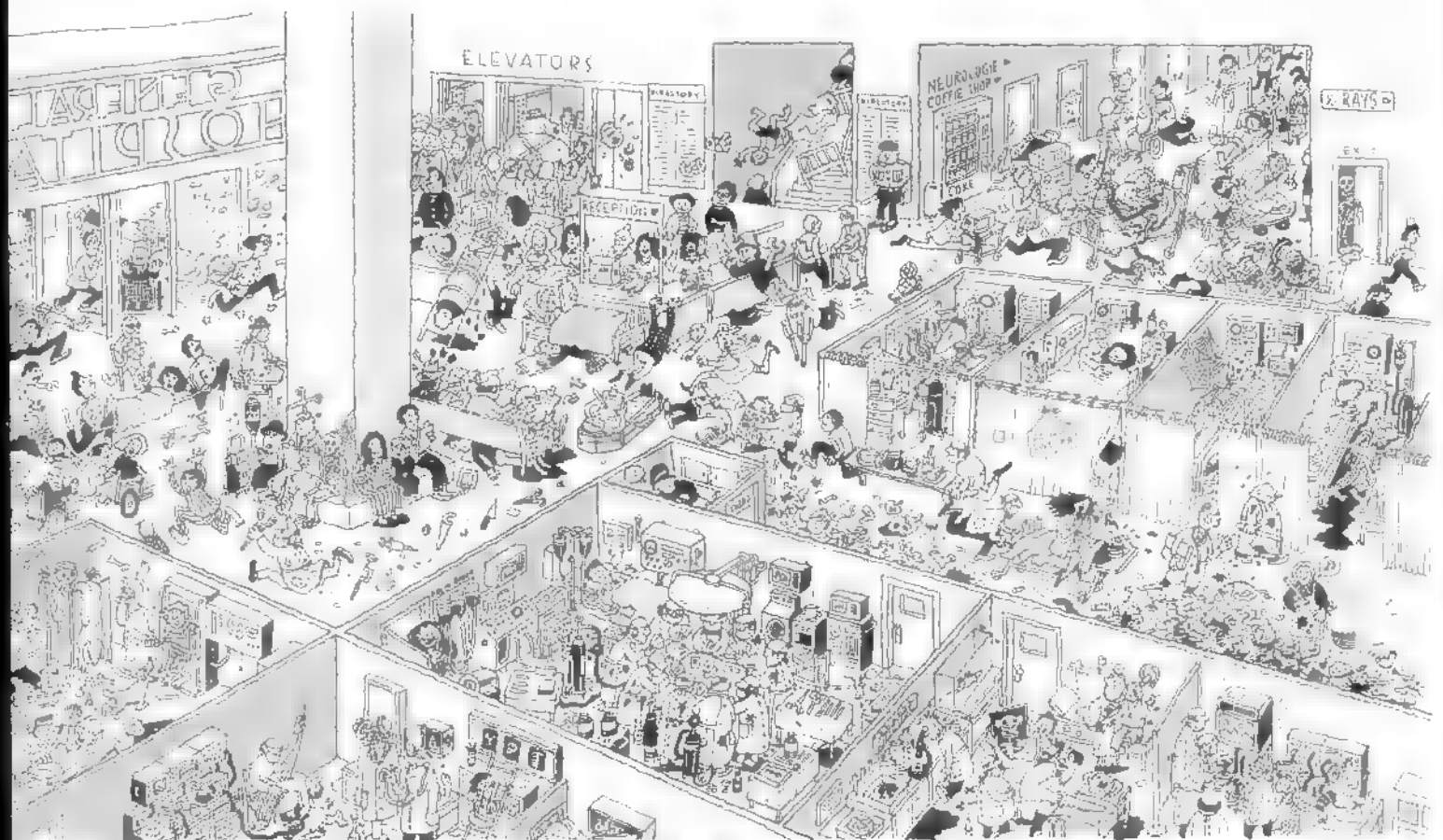
WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN



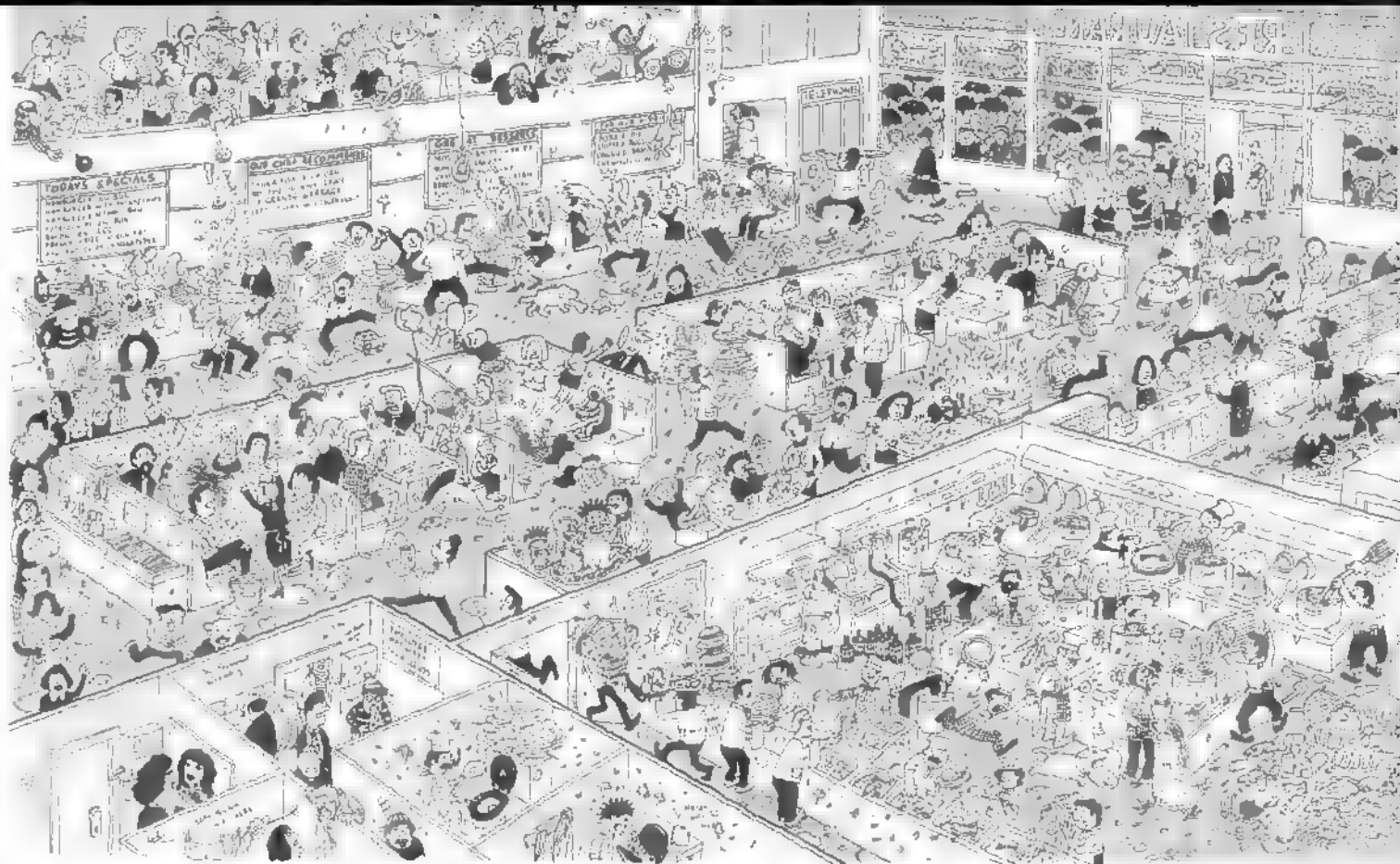
ON ANY GUNK-COATED PUBLIC BEACH



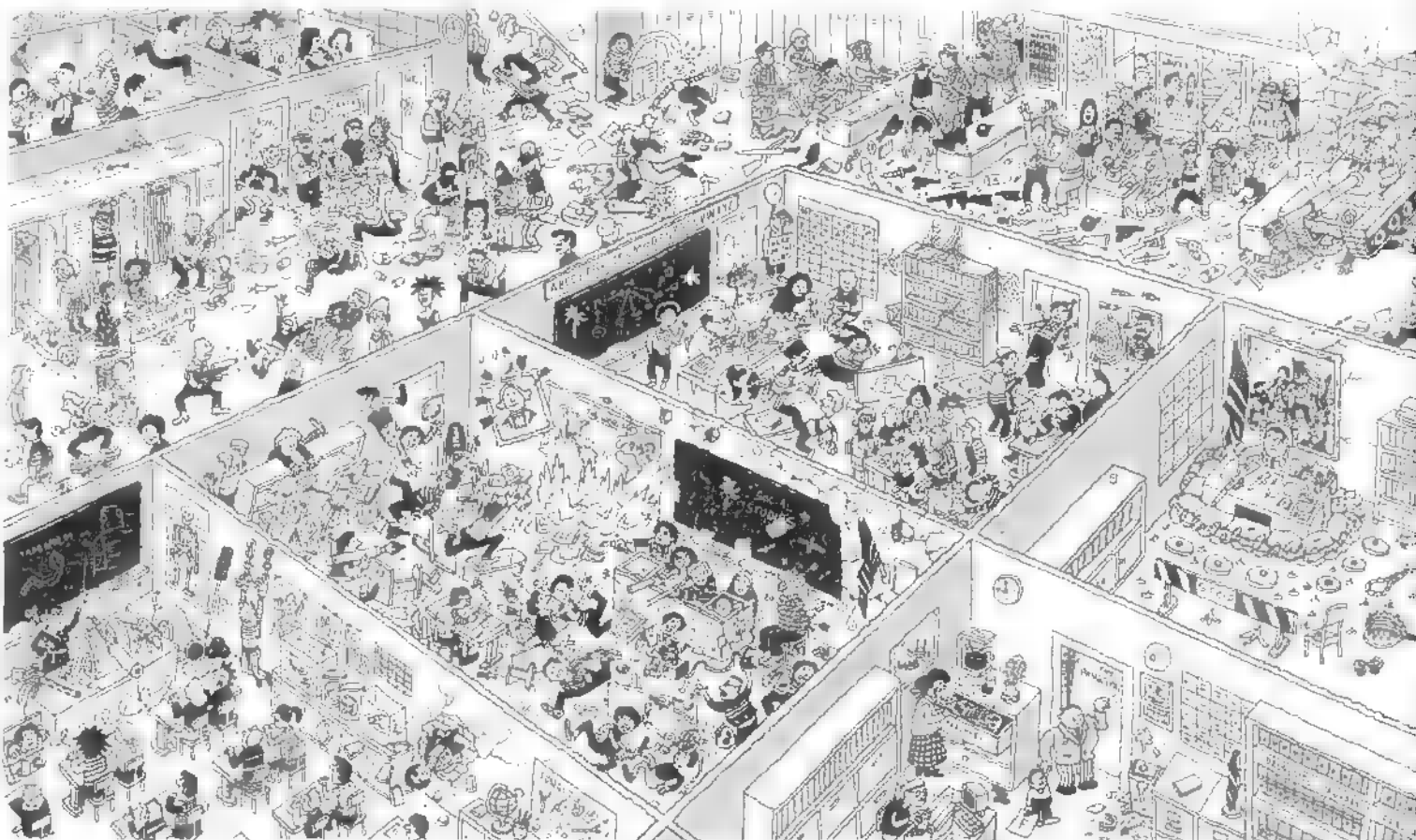
AT THE DOWNTOWN BUS TERMINAL



IN THE EMERGENCY WARD OF A BIG-CITY HOSPITAL



IN ANY RESTAURANT THAT PAYS OFF THE HEALTH INSPECTOR



IN ANY INNER-CITY SCHOOL

THE DORKY DOWNHILL DISTORTION

ARTIST AND WRITER: DUCK EDWING



HART BURN DEPT.

Do you remember all the movies you wanted to see but couldn't because of some silly reason—like your father being laid off from work? Well, don't feel bad. If you didn't see those movies in the theater, you can save cash by seeing them at home. Or save even more by just reading...



MAD'S VIDEO REVIEWS

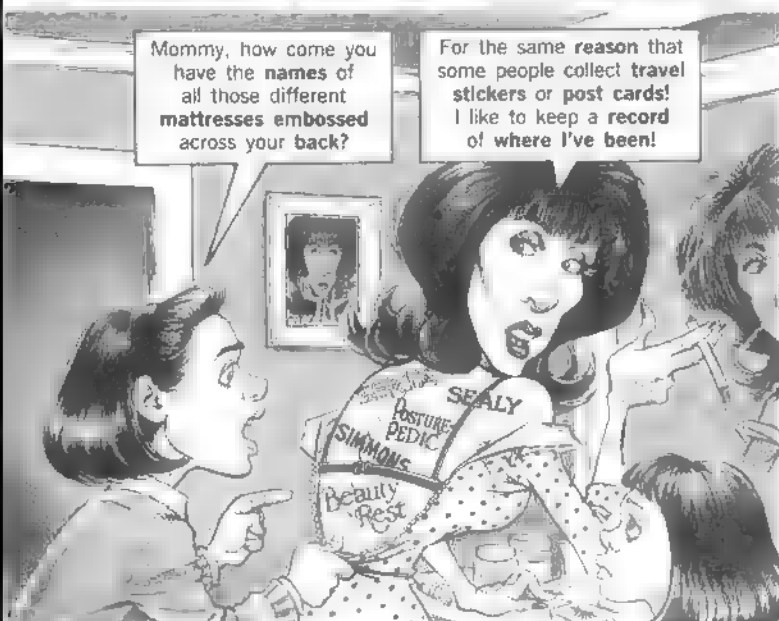
"AWAKENINGS"

The most dramatic moment in "Awakenings" is when Robin Williams, as a dedicated doctor, gets catatonic people with sleeping sickness to catch a ball. It's almost identical to what happened to the St. Louis Cardinals' outfield last season. Only here they're successful!



"MERMAIDS"

In this film, Cher prances around in outrageous clothes, looking like an idiot. Orion Pictures was foolish to spend their money shooting brand new footage when the same shots were available from Cher's own home movies!



"KINDERGARTEN COP"

If, as his publicity releases stated, Arnold Schwarzenegger wanted to play something different, he should have taken up the contra bassoon! This film is no playpen frolic. It's so violent that kids under thirteen years of age can't see it unless they are accompanied by someone out on parole!



"HAMLET"

If Mel Gibson was looking for something that was more lethal than "Lethal Weapon," he found it with "Hamlet." Noted psychiatrists believe that if criminals were made to sit through this film every time they were arrested, the crime wave would be over! If Shakespeare were alive today he'd be very upset for two reasons: One, because Hollywood loused up his most famous play, and Two, there's not much a 427-year-old man can do for fun!



"SLEEPING WITH THE ENEMY"

Since gorgeous Julia Roberts sleeps with the enemy, who would want to be her friend? In this flick, her husband abuses her until she escapes from him by faking her own death. Later, she meets a very, very dull new boyfriend and learns how to fake something else!

Julia moves to a new town where she hopes to go unnoticed. If such a fantastic looking gal can go unnoticed, this is not only a great town for hiding but also a great town for an ophthalmologist!



Her husband goes from being a neatness freak nerd to a neatness freak maniac.



"MISERY"

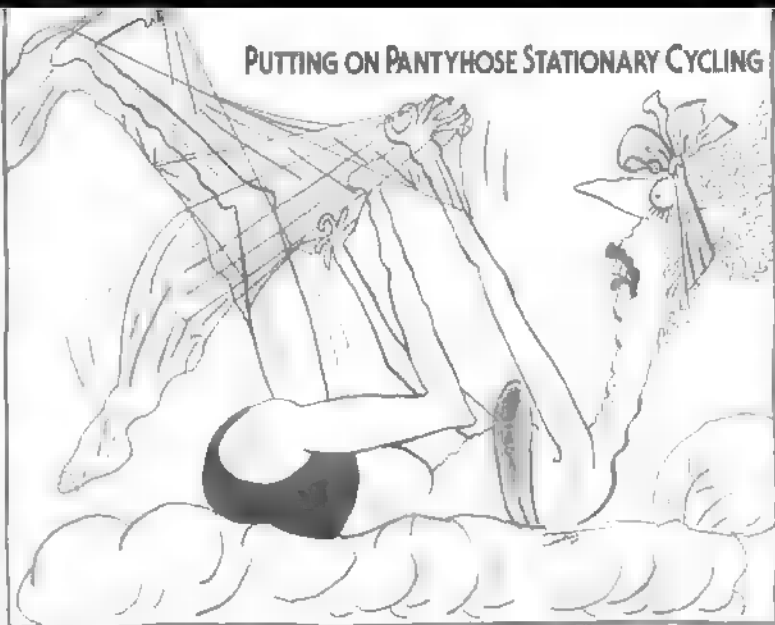
This film is very educational in that it shows what can happen to people stupid enough to drive their car in a raging snowstorm. James Caan, playing a writer, is tortured by his greatest "fan." It was mild treatment compared to what some of the film reviewers did to him!



YOUR DAYS ARE LIMBERED DEPT.

DAILY AEROBIC ROUTINES WITHOUT COSTLY VI

PUTTING ON PANTYHOSE STATIONARY CYCLING



DUSTBALL ROUNDUP KNEE BENDS



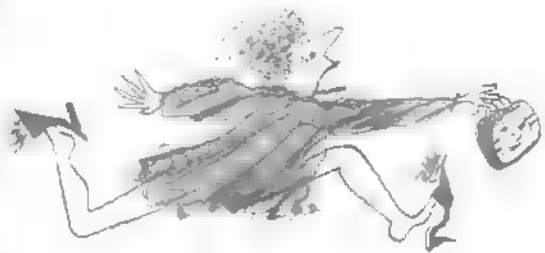
PICK-UP PAPER AND MAIL DUCK WALKING



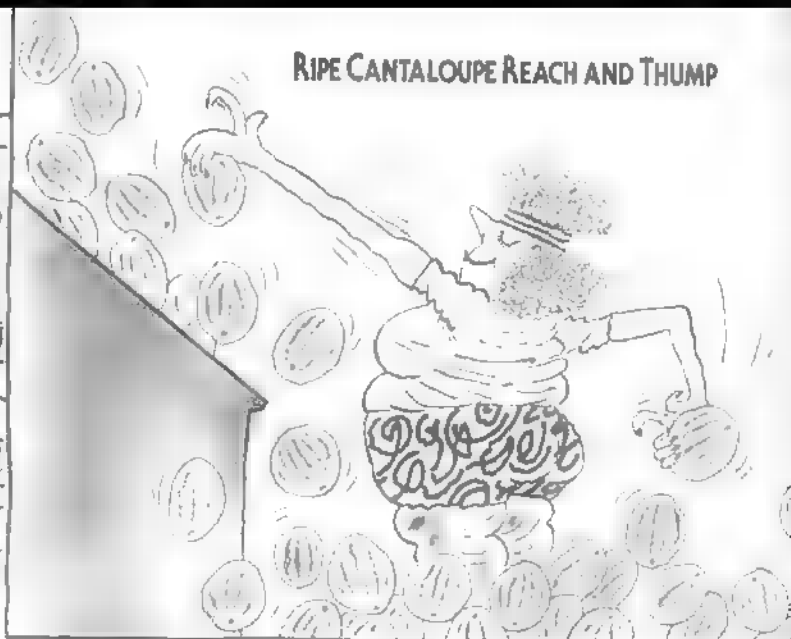
TOENAIL



FORGOTTEN LUNCHBOX TO SCHOOL BUS LEG LIFTING DASH



RIPE CANTALOUPE REACH AND THUMP



VIDEO TAPES

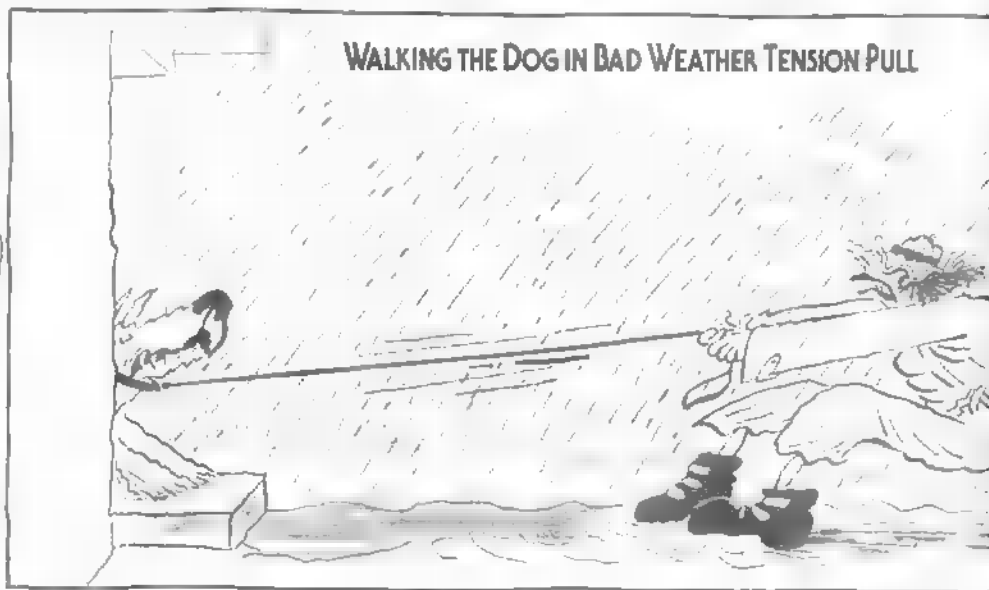
ARTIST AND WRITER: PAUL PETER FORGES



FRESH SQUEEZED ORANGE JUICE DICEP CURL



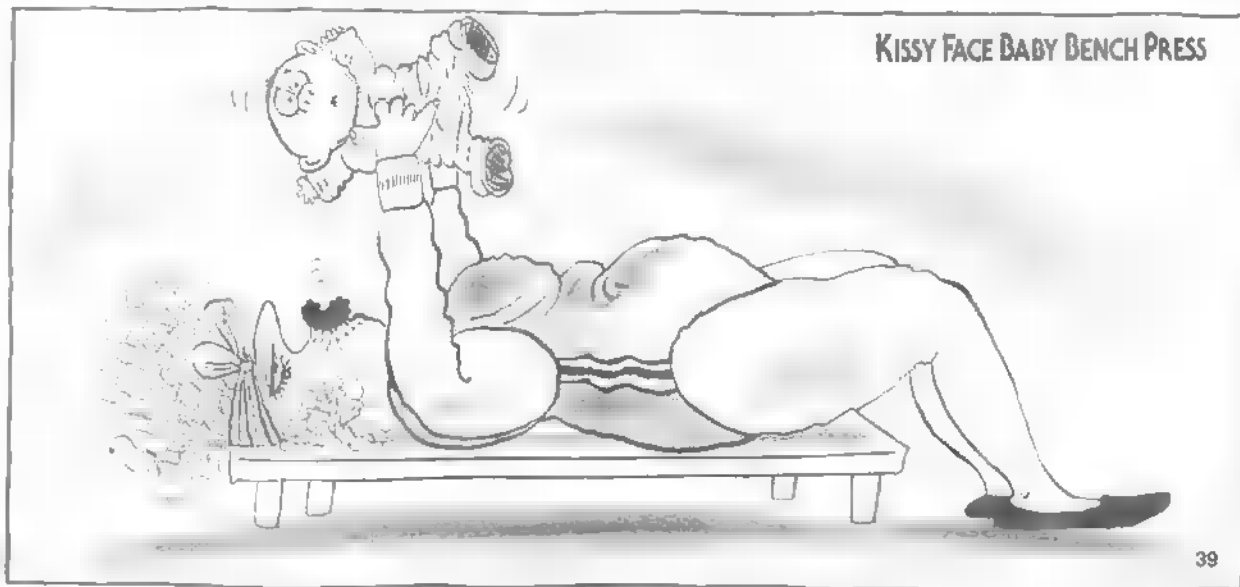
WALKING THE DOG IN BAD WEATHER TENSION PULL

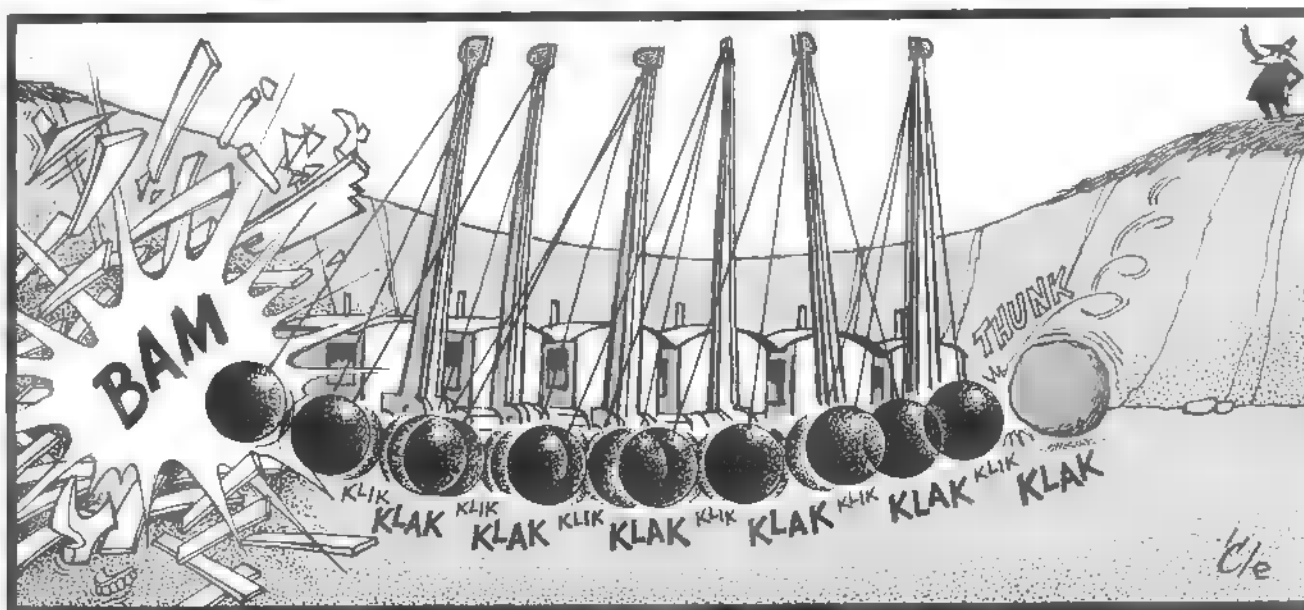
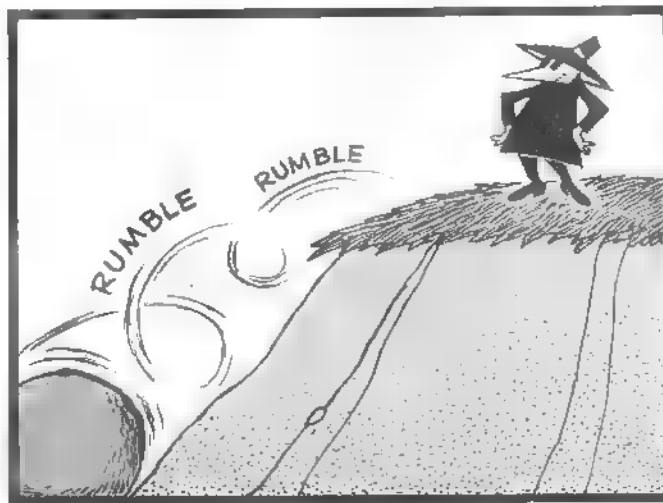
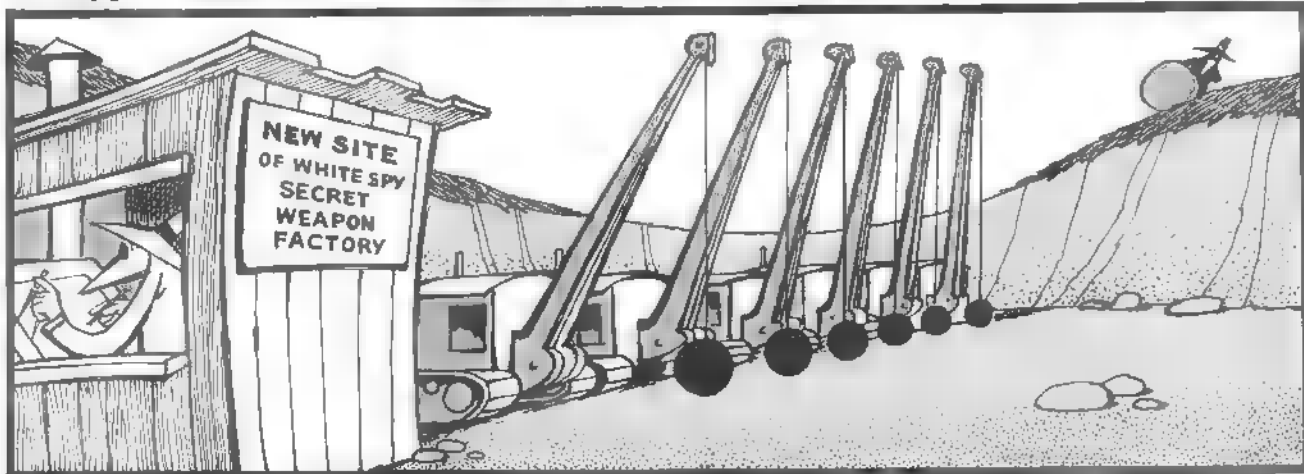
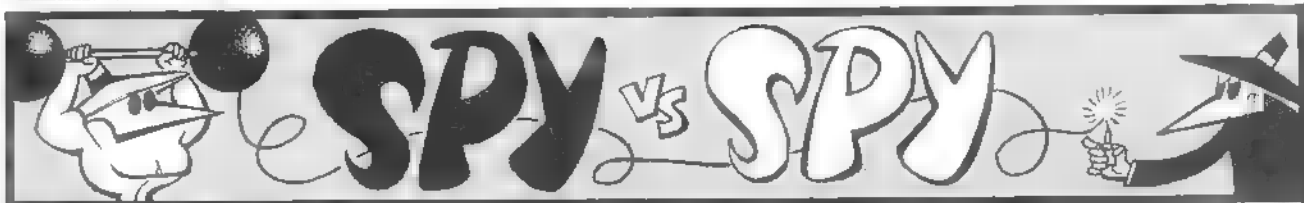


POLISH DEND OVER



KISSY FACE BABY BENCH PRESS





Scientists claim that the last of the dinosaurs died out millions of years ago. Well, they're wrong! The unsettling truth is there are many species around today that should have kicked the bucket back in the Lacto-Ovo Millennia! Who are these strange creatures? To find out, we convened a panel of top-level paleontologists who had lunch and then went home! And so, left to our own devices, we stupidly pushed on until we discovered these ...

MODERN DAY DINOSAURS

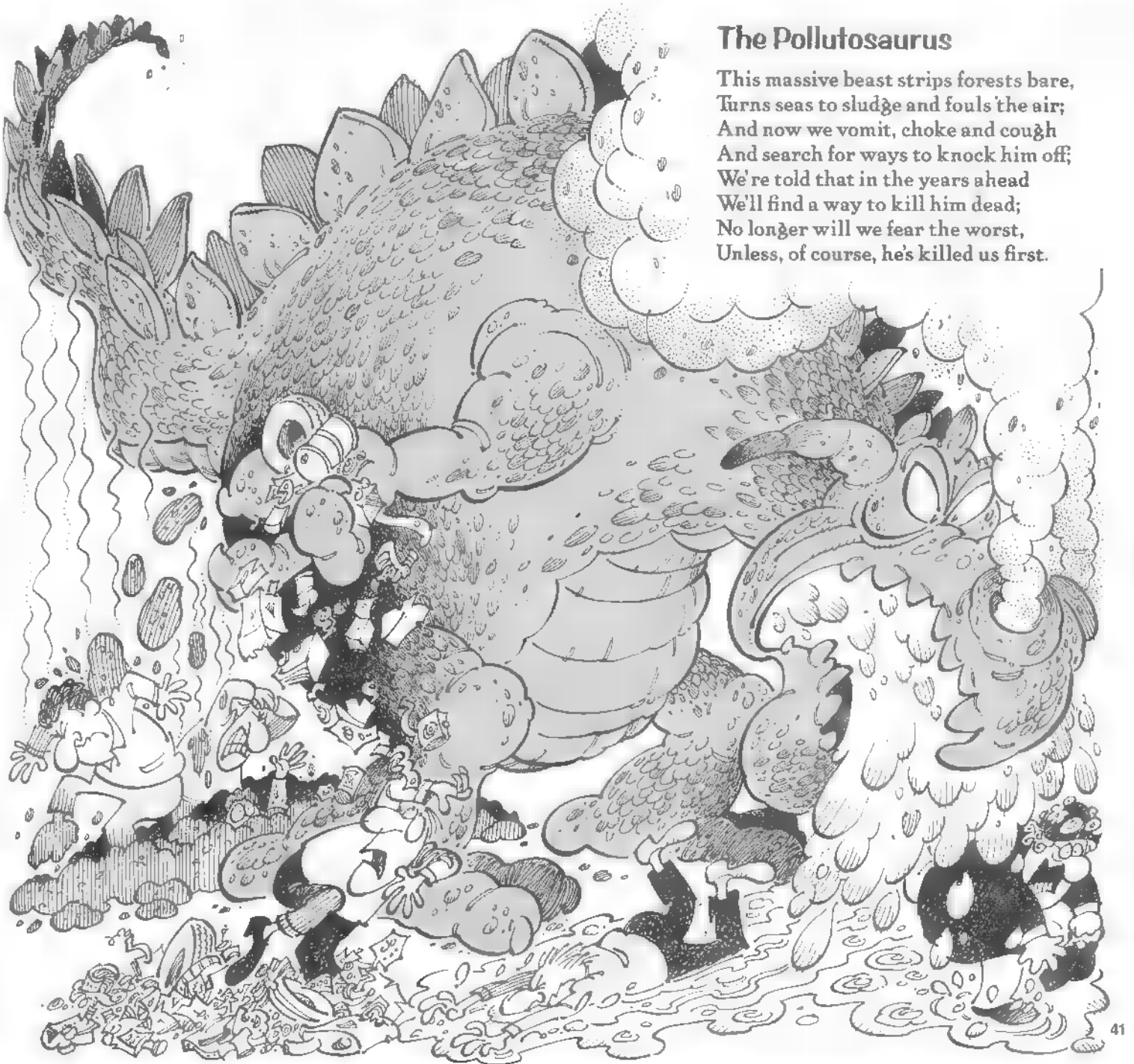
WE WISH WERE EXTINCT

ARTIST: PAUL COKER

WRITER: FRANK JACOBS

The Pollutosaurus

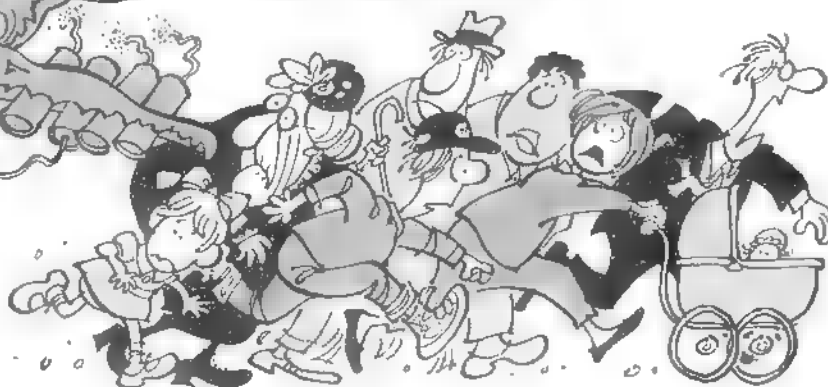
This massive beast strips forests bare,
Turns seas to sludge and fouls the air;
And now we vomit, choke and cough
And search for ways to knock him off;
We're told that in the years ahead
We'll find a way to kill him dead;
No longer will we fear the worst,
Unless, of course, he's killed us first.





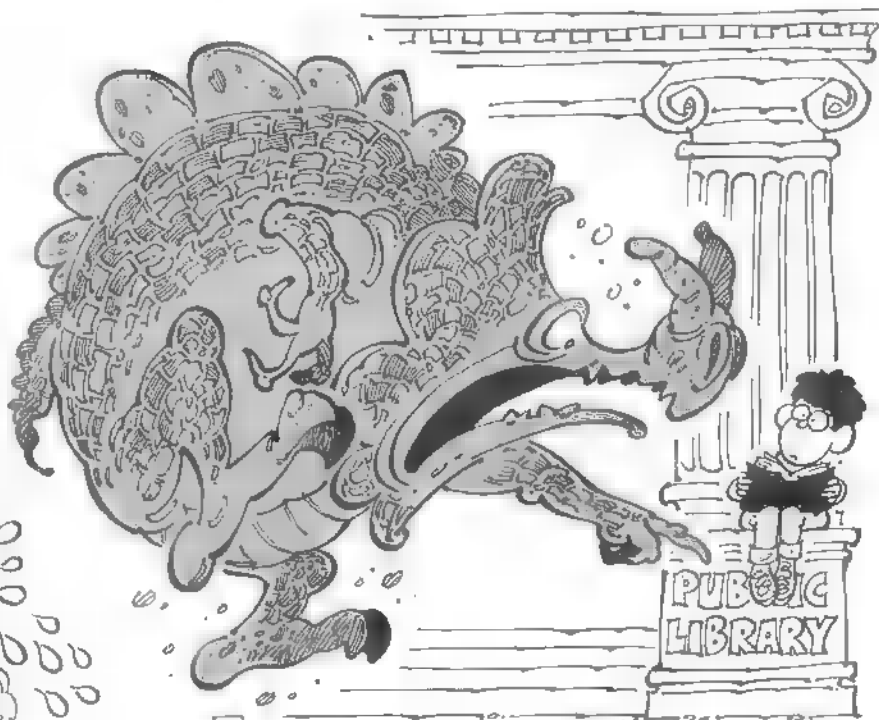
The Terrordactyl

These carnivores swoop down in packs
And slay their prey with sneak attacks;
They thirst for blood and feed on hate,
And bomb and burn and mutilate;
Somehow we've let them run amok;
Perhaps, through some great stroke of luck,
They'll blow each other up real soon—
Most prefer'bly this afternoon.



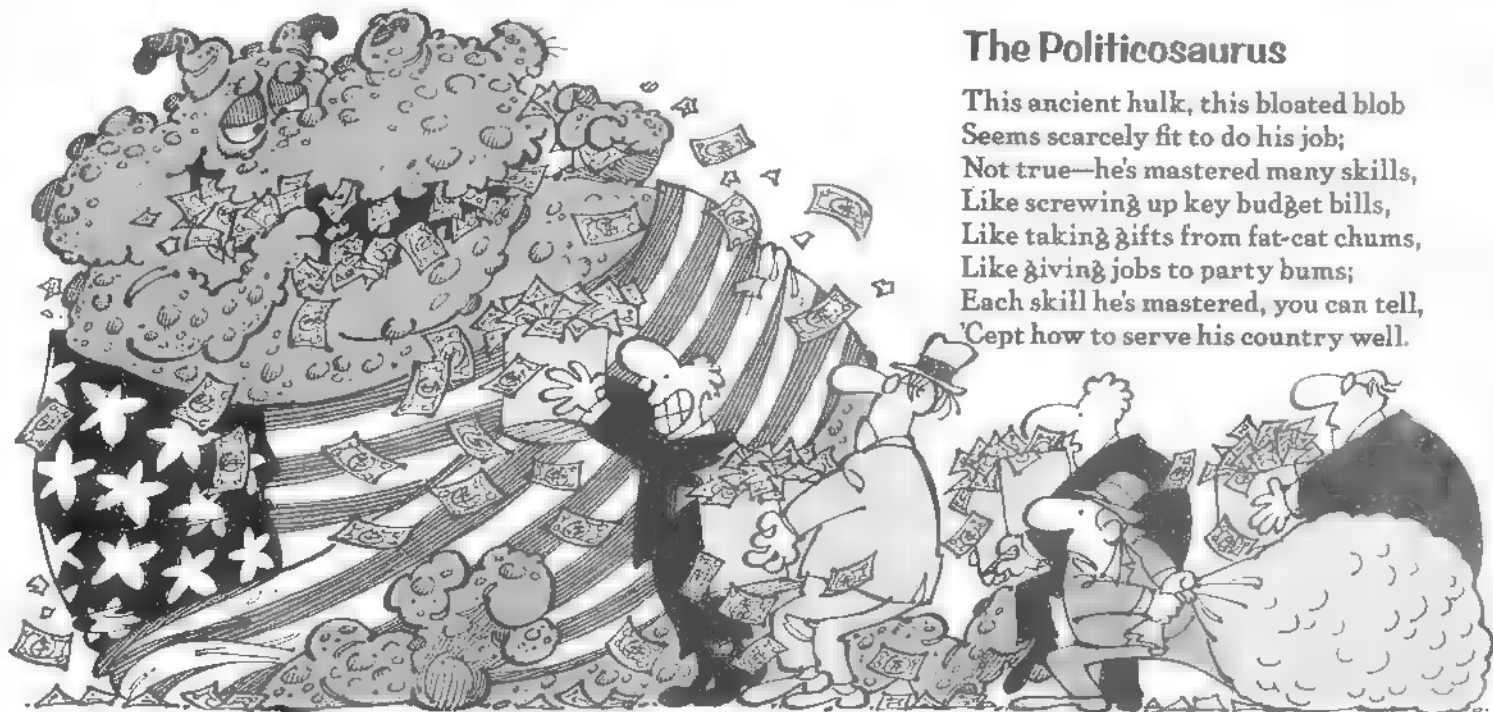
The Banasaurus

Most any place this creature looks
He turns up scores of filthy books;
Today, to save us all from sin,
He'll outlaw "Huckleberry Finn,"
Torch "Moby Dick," then spring the noose
On sev'ral books by Doctor Seuss;
In fairness, though, we should explain
He only has a pea-sized brain.



The Jockosaur

The spike-tailed creature pictured here
Pulls in a million clams a year;
To lesser beasts, that's quite a lot;
To Jockosaurs, it's diddly-squat;
He whines and moans he's underpaid,
Sits on his tail, demands a trade;
But don't despair; he'll get his raise;
Like always, it's the fan who pays.



The Politicosaurus

This ancient hulk, this bloated blob
Seems scarcely fit to do his job;
Not true—he's mastered many skills,
Like screwing up key budget bills,
Like taking gifts from fat-cat chums,
Like giving jobs to party bums;
Each skill he's mastered, you can tell,
'Cept how to serve his country well.

The Yappadon

The hot air that this creature blows
Is heard each night on radios;
He talks of life on UFOs,
How Cher gets off on Eskimos,
Why field mice soon will rule the earth,
Of meeting Elvis in Fort Worth;
And if he gets beneath your skin,
Check out the creatures phoning in.



The Drunkadocus

This scaly creature's guts now ooze
With one too many drinks of booze,
Explaining his attempts to drive
At speeds exceeding 85;
Alas, before the night is gone,
He'll smack some luckless beast head-on;
Let's hope (although the chance is slim),
If one survives, it isn't him.

deadwo

I'm going to tell you a fairy tale, child! It's about an inventor who created freaks of nature! There was a lion with no courage, a scarecrow with no heart, and a tinman...

Grandma, I'd love to hear that story, it's great! But unfortunately you're supposed to tell that sheer nonsense story about the boy called...

Tell me, Master, why do I have scissors for hands?

You have scissors for hands? That explains this pair of hands in my sewing box where all my scissors used to be! I'm getting so forgetful lately! Today I found a human heart in my lunchbox! That means some poor clown I created is walking around with a salami sandwich beating in his chest!

I'm getting forgetful, too! I'm almost sure I heard this story before!



ARTIST: ANGELO TORRES

Doesn't anybody ever come up here?

Just those people selling Watchtower magazine!

How come this place looks so run down?

We blew all our budget on the garden!

I don't know what you're selling, lady, but I never buy anything!

You can't fool me! Someone sold you all those scissors! You bought at least a dozen pairs!

Honestly, lady! These are my hands!

Really? Tell me, are any other parts of you constructed of hardened steel? I have this friend who's single and she's also a cut-up kinda gal!



Good SCISSORS HAM

I'm suing! It's bad enough that Deadwood acts stranger than me, but stealing my wardrobe from my "Bad" video is going too far!

If you want to sue this guy for copyright infringement, pal, get in line!

Avon calling! But judging by the looks of this place, you'd be better off if you had Bob Vila and the "This Old House" crew calling!



WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO

In fact, I'm going to take you home to live with my husband, myself, and our typically average children!

Gee, I don't know...

I'll make you a nice dinner with my brand new food processor!

Let's go! I've been dying to meet a cute food processor! Is she seeing anyone steady?



Deadwood, it's very late! Why aren't you sleeping? And what are you reading by flashlight underneath the covers?

The latest barber supply catalogue! The fold-out of this month's clippers is driving me bonkers!



You seem to be having trouble using utensils, Deadwood! Didn't you have knives and forks in the old haunted mansion you lived in?

Oh, sure! We had knives and forks! We just didn't have food!

Gee, Deadwood, how'd you get all those scars on your face?

From shaving!

You cut yourself with the razor?

No, I cut myself applying the shaving cream!

You'll meet all our neighbors at today's barbecue, Deadwood! But some of them are very pushy! Don't let them take advantage of you! Now hurry up and cut up the cabbage for the cole slaw, dice those potatoes, slice these mushrooms, and mince the onions! But first open this can of beans!



Oh, no! Flashback brand beans! I hate them!

Why? Do they give you gas?

Gas I can handle! It's the flashbacks I can't stand!

Cough—Gaggs—Deadwood, I'm choking!

Not to worry, Master! I know the Heimlich Maneuver!

No, no! Not the Heimlich Maneuver!

Thanks a lot, pal! The choking I could have survived! But look at me now, thanks to you and your #\$\$%* Heimlich Maneuver!



Deadwood, please! No more of your disgusting flashbacks when we have company! Take this stuff out into the yard! And don't be self conscious about your handicap! I'm sure no one will even notice!

What an incredible poodle cut!

It's more incredible than you think! This dog started out as a Great Dane!

I get deep emotional and physical joy each time Deadwood works on my hair!

Hmm, the bald look! It might be just the nutty gimmick you need to get your music career going!



Deadwood can cut hair, trim dogs, hedges, lawns...

That's easy! Look what he's doing now!

Incredible, Deadwood! Six in under ten minutes! This must be some kind of world's record!

I don't understand why Deadwood is working 16 hours a day! He's making more money than he can ever hope to spend now, so why keep going at that pace?

'Cause he's broke! He doesn't have a dollar to his name!

Are you kidding? Where did all his money go to?

Shredded! Every time he tried to count up his earnings for the day, he ended up with nothing but expensive green confetti!



Today's show is about men who are somehow different from the rest of us!

In a little while we'll be meeting a man who has scissors for hands...

Also, a man who has cowbells for ears...

A man with a pocket fisherman for a nose...

And a man who has an unspecified material for a brain!



Deadwood broke into your dad's house and set off the alarms! How'd you talk him into picking the locks, Dork?

I told him there was a wild, over-sexed pencil sharpener in my dad's den!

You're under arrest for un-armed... no, maybe underhanded... no, well, some kind of robbery!

Don't worry, Deadwood! He doesn't have a shred of evidence against you!

Wrong! I've got shreds and shreds of evidence!

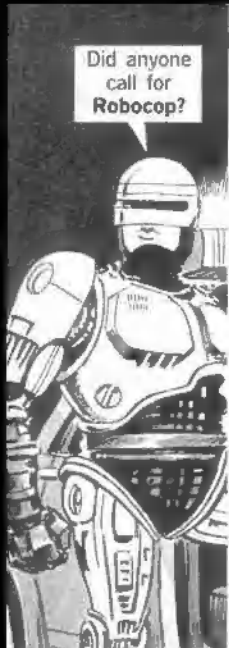
Aren't you going to hand-cuff him?

I'm waiting for help from another town!

How come? Deadwood isn't putting up a fight!

I know, but I've called for the only cop that can put cuffs on him and not get cut up!





Did anyone
call for
Robocop?



I don't know which one of
them broke into my dad's
house! It was very dark!

Look at you.
What
happened?

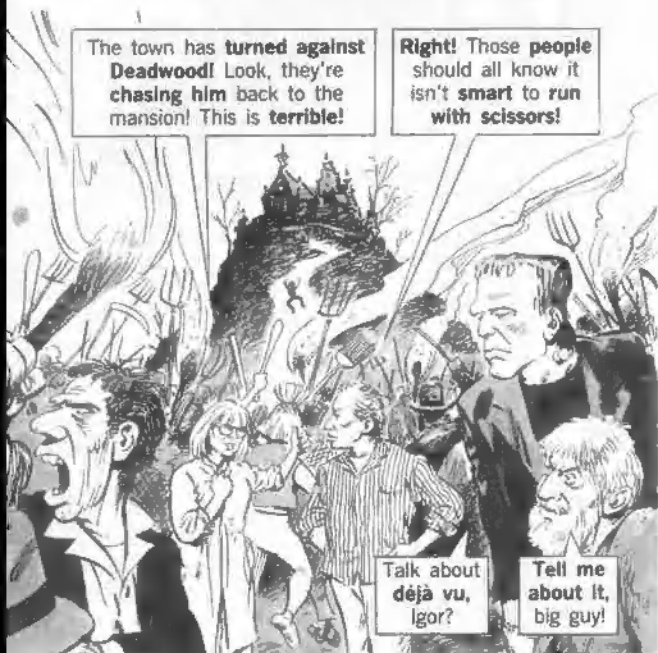
Fingerprinting
that guy was
a real bitch!



I talked you
into breaking
into Dork's
house! Now
you're in
bad trouble
and it's all
because of me!

I don't mind
stealing if
that's what
you want!
I'd lie,
cheat, maim,
pillage...

Deadwood, you're
turning me on
with all that
romantic talk!
That's what
love's about!
So be a doll
and kill Dork!



The town has turned against
Deadwood! Look, they're
chasing him back to the
mansion! This is terrible!

Right! Those people
should all know it
isn't smart to run
with scissors!

Talk about
déjà vu,
Igor?

Tell me
about it,
big guy!



Somehow this climactic fight
scene on the roof of an old
gothic mansion reminds me of
another Tim Burton film, but
I can't remember which one!

Let go of me, you joker!

I'm gonna bust your head
open with this bat, man!

Oh,
yeah!
Now
I re-
member!



Deadwood,
this is
absolutely
impossible!

You mean
our love
affair?

No, that it's over
90 degrees and you
found giant blocks
of ice to carve!

So, child,
what do
you
think
of the
story?

It was a complete mess!
Even a kid my age
can't buy all those
loopholes! It was
total bull, Grandma!

No, it's not! And don't call me Grandma!
I'm only 35 years old and these aren't
wrinkles—they're cuts and scars! See,
Deadwood and I still have a very close
relationship! I go up to the mansion
and "sharpen his blades" a bit...



**WHAT NEW
HEALTH HAZARD
ARE SCIENTISTS
NOW CAREFULLY
MONITORING?**

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS **MAD FOLD-IN**

A new health hazard seems to appear every day. To see what the latest one is, fold page in.



FOLD PAGE LIKE THIS!

A▶

FOLD THIS SECTION OVER LEFT

◀B

FOLD BACK SO "A" MEETS "B"



TERRIBLE HEALTH HAZARDS ARE EVERYWHERE. CRIMINAL
ILLEGALITY CAN BE CHARGED IF THERE ARE WITNESSES
TO PROVE NEGLIGENCE HARMED PEOPLE.

A▶

◀B

SNAPPY ANSWERS TO STUPID QUESTIONS AT A WRESTLING MATCH

ARTIST AND WRITER: AL JAFFEE

